

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3973.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1903.

PRIOR
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, Lecture Arrangements Before Easter, 1904.

A CHRISTMAS COURSE OF LECTURES. Lecture Hour, 3 o'clock.
Prof. RAY LANKESTER, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S. SIX LECTURES
(adapted to a Juvenile Audience) on 'Extinct Animals.' On Dec. 29
(TUESDAY), Dec. 31, 1903, Jan. 2, 5, 7, 9, 1904.

TUESDAYS. Lecture Hour, 5 o'clock.
Prof. L. C. MIALL, F.R.S., Fellerian Professor of Physiology, R.I.
SIX LECTURES on 'The Development and Transformations of
Animals.' On TUESDAYS, Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16.
ERNEST FOXWELL, Esq., M.A. THREE LECTURES on 'Japanese
Life and Character.' On TUESDAYS, Feb. 23, March 1, 8.
E. A. WALLIS BUDGE, Esq., M.A., Litt.D., D.Lit. F.S.A. TWO
LECTURES on 'The Doctrine of Heaven and Hell in Ancient Egypt,
and the Books of the Underworld.' On TUESDAYS, March 15, 22.

THURSDAYS. Lecture Hour, 5 o'clock.
G. R. M. MURRAY, Esq., F.R.S. THREE LECTURES on 'The
Flora of the Ocean.' On THURSDAYS, Jan. 14, 21, 28.
A. D. HALL, Esq., M.A. THREE LECTURES on 'Recent Research
in Agriculture.' On THURSDAYS, Feb. 4, 11, 18.
Prof. H. L. CALLENDAR, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S. THREE LECTURES
on 'Electrical Methods of Measuring Temperature.' On THURSDAYS,
Feb. 25, March 3, 10.
SIDNEY LEE, Esq., Litt.D. TWO LECTURES on 'Shakespeare as
Contemporaries knew him.' On THURSDAYS, March 17, 24.

SATURDAYS. Lecture Hour, 3 o'clock.
J. A. FULLER MATTIAND, Esq., M.A., F.S.A. THREE LECTURES
on 'British Folk-Song' (with Vocal Illustrations). On SATURDAYS,
Jan. 16, 23, 30.
J. W. COURTNEY, Esq., M.A., LL.D. TWO LECTURES on
'Comedy, Ancient and Modern.' On SATURDAYS, Feb. 6, 13.
The Right Hon. LORD RAYLEIGH, O.M., M.A., D.C.L., LL.D., Sc.D.
F.R.S., M.I.T., Professor of Natural Philosophy &c. SIX LECTURES
on 'The Life and Work of Stokes.' On SATURDAYS, Feb. 20, 27,
March 5, 12, 19.

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Discourse on 'Shadows.' Succeeding Discourses will probably be
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HUGHES, Mr. ALFRED AUSTIN (Poet Laureate), the DEAN of
WESTMINSTER, Mr. H. HERBERT BAKER, Mr. ALEXANDER
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HARRY PERKINS, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Loughborough, December 16, 1903.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1903.

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LITERATURE

London in the Time of the Stuarts. By Sir Walter Besant. (A. & C. Black.)

THE publication of such work as Besant completed before his death on the Survey of London is being, for some reason or other, undertaken backwards. Last year we had 'London in the Eighteenth Century.' This year the seventeenth century is the theme, and apparently we are to have the sixteenth some time next year. At least the preface to this volume, which was written by Besant, speaks of Tudor London as already an accomplished design, and the publishers in a foot-note mention that the volume is in the press. It is possible that the reason of this historic retrogression was that those who were called upon to make the decision resolved on issuing the eighteenth-century book first because it represented the author's most complete and fullest work. It would be natural to desire to put the best foot foremost. And there can be no doubt that the second volume of the Survey is inferior to the first; there is about it a perfunctory air which we are not wont to associate with Besant's interest in London. And there are gaps and hiatuses which suggest that the book is rather an incomplete mass of notes than a perfected volume. Signs were not wanting in the previous volume that the work had not received its final revision at the author's hands; and these signs are more plentiful in the present instance. For example, two or three pages only are devoted to the very important question of public morality, and about the same space is allotted to weddings and funerals. But perhaps a better idea of the incompleteness of the volume as compared with its predecessor is to be obtained by contrasting the space devoted to manners and customs and society and amusements, under which heads, in both volumes, social questions fall to be treated. In 'London in the Eighteenth Century' there are no fewer than thirty-

two chapters, covering 245 pages and dealing with numerous subjects, such as dress, servants, the position of women, duelling, masquerades, fairs, and the like, whereas the same general headings in the present volume comprise only two chapters, and occupy but eighty-seven pages, while most of the topics treated in the former volume are ignored or merely touched on.

Both volumes go upon the plan of furnishing an introduction dealing with the general history of the century. It may be doubted, however, if this is the best scheme for a book of this sort; the history must be of necessity superficial and set forth with a running pen. Perhaps the book would have gained by assuming a more philosophic air and a greater austerity. In this connexion, and to show the lack of system incidental to such a method as that employed, we may point out that Besant in these notes (for it is the word he uses himself constantly) makes no reference to the Rye House Plot, which had an intimate relation to London, and was, indeed, supposed to have been hatched in a London wineshop. Yet such matters as he treats emerge in a graphic picture, as his summary of the conditions of the metropolis during the Civil War shows:

"There was no foreign trade; the Royalist ships commanded the German Ocean; the West of England sent up no wool; the East sent up no provisions; the North sent up no coal; there was no money; the shops stood open, but the master was away with the trained bands; the craftsman's children wanted bread, but the breadwinner was away with Fairfax. The industries ceased, for the markets were closed; after every battle soldiers, either disbanded or deserters, swarmed into London as a place of refuge; the Royalist minority was a constant source of danger; there were religious differences innumerable, each as intolerant as the Church of Rome."

Besant sets out by marking the breaks in the century roughly accomplished by the Civil War and the Plague, which thus split asunder the mediæval from the modern world. We have been accustomed to date modernity from the Renaissance, the Reformation, or the discoveries of the sixteenth century, according to our several predilections. But, in a sense, modern England began with the return of Charles II. and the consolidation of the opinions and forces which still rule us. As Sir Walter points out,—

"The first half of the century is, in fact, a continuation of the Elizabethan period, with decay in literature and development in religion; the second half belongs to the eighteenth century, where we find a development of the last forty years of the seventeenth."

Yet the seventeenth century falls into several distinct grades. For example, the earlier stages of Puritanism, as exhibited in the reign of James I. and the first part of the reign of Charles I., differed materially from the later stages. The Puritan was not, in his prime, "necessarily a gloomy and austere person. He might be a man of many accomplishments; Col. Hutchinson fenced, danced, and played the viol." Milton wrote a masque. The earlier Puritanism was bound up with scholarship and refinement. Moreover, the distinction between life in the eighteenth and seventeenth centuries remarked by Sir Walter in his former book was alive until after the

Great Fire. It was only later in the century that the old connexion between trade and the nobility died out, never to be revived until our own day. Here is a case, educed by Sir Walter, which is all the more interesting as it affects Samuel Pepys:

"Early in the seventeenth century, one Pepys, a country gentleman of no great standing, married a girl of his own class, whose sister married into the Montagu family. One of his sons, a younger son, was sent to London and returned into trade, but without conspicuous success. He became a tailor, and he was, of course, first cousin to Sir Edward Montagu, his mother's nephew. One of his two sons succeeded him in the business, the other became Secretary of the Admiralty, and afterwards President of the Royal Society; he is also the writer of the finest diary ever committed to paper. Sir Edward Montagu became Lord Sandwich. In his family there were, therefore, all closely connected, Lord Sandwich, the Chief Justice of Ireland, a Doctor of Divinity, a Member of Parliament, the Secretary of the Admiralty, a Serjeant-at-Law, a hosteller, a publican, a tobacconist, a butcher, a tailor, a weaver, a goldsmith, and a turner."

It is safe to say that this was impossible in the following century. Yet, standing thus and facing both ways, the seventeenth century is more interesting on that account. Its superstitions belonged to mediævalism, and we hear of powdered mummy as a remedy for many diseases, a recipe which was only abandoned because "Jews took to embalming bodies" and selling them as the genuine article. An early water supply was brought into London in the reign of James I., but undoubtedly it was the dirt and bad sanitary arrangements that caused the Plague, a disease which seems from a contemporary account to have been identical with the bubonic plague of the East to day. Sir Walter, for some reason, is not inclined to attribute the Plague altogether to the dirty conditions of life. The inventory of a house in 1680, on the other hand, keeps touch with modern ideas of comfort and elegance. Carpets were advertised in 1660, which came, however, from Turkey, and were used for tables, not floors. Nearly a hundred years later we find Jonas Hanway referring to English carpets as poor in comparison with Turkey carpets. It is odd to find that the use of tea synchronizes with this beginning of the modern period in England, as also to find it assailed in many quarters as symptomatic of the national degeneration. Before the use of tea, people drank ale or wine at breakfast, and we are told that each member of a household disposed of three quarts of ale daily. Our generation is indicted very frequently for its indolence and its greed, but it would seem from contemporary accounts that we have in some ways improved upon the rule of the seventeenth century. Dinner was served at one or two, and was a most formidable affair, consisting of many courses, each of which amounted to a dinner in itself. And after dinner wine and conversation carried the diners well into the afternoon. "It does not seem that the merchants did much business after dinner, for then began the time of rest, recreation, and drinking." And we know that the performances in the theatre took place in the afternoon. It was, indeed, a leisurely life, and cannot have been too wholesome. So in Edinburgh within the memory of

living people, none so old, the dinner early in the afternoon was the signal for cessation from work and the close of the business day. Those who similarly pen philippics against our mercantile sloth-to-day may be interested to know that they had their forerunners in the seventeenth century. Raleigh's 'Observations on Trade and Commerce,' issued early in the century, enumerate seven points "in which the Dutch surpass us," which include, by the way, Free Trade.

We suppose that the "notes" made by Besant were not sufficiently completed to comprise a picture of the Courts of Charles II. and his successor. The London of the period was, perhaps, the most interesting, if only because it foreshadowed the beginning of modern London society. Charles II. virtually established "smart society," and a study of it in those days will repay trouble. For the first time fashionable idlers came into prominence, and it was the growth of this element that caused the corruption of the succeeding century. So far as its outward evidences in law went, the moral sense of the country developed very slowly from the Restoration onwards. Besant refers to the cruelty and ruthlessness of the penalties attached to crimes in the Caroline age. Yet little or nothing was altered in this respect during the Georgian reigns. Here, for example, is a significant extract from the 'Annual Register' for 1763:—

"Ended the sessions at the Old Bailey, when three men and two women for several robberies, and one man for housebreaking, received sentence of death.....William Lee,.....for cutting his wife's throat, was sentenced to suffer two years' imprisonment in Newgate."

Besant appears to have sympathized with those who criticized the introduction of coaches on the ground that the use of them bred an idle habit of body, and made travellers less hardy. Yet the early stage-coach could not have been exactly luxurious, as it travelled at the average rate of three miles an hour, and bumped and rolled over the terrible roads so that the passengers were frequently sick, and there are numerous records of the extreme cold suffered by outside passengers. It would almost seem that the horseman was more fortunate. Had Besant lived he would doubtless have amplified this account of the seventeenth century, which, with all its omissions, is still a treasure-house of facts and stories interesting to all Englishmen, and particularly to Londoners.

The Gods of the Egyptians. By E. A. Wallis Budge. 2 vols. (Methuen & Co).

In these two handsome volumes Dr. Budge presents the fruit of some twenty years' work upon the religion and mythology of Pharaonic Egypt. It will probably be conceded by all that he is specially competent in the matter from his position as Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum, in which capacity he has not only frequently visited, but also superintended excavations in most parts of Egypt. In addition to these qualifications, he brings to the task a daily acquaintance with Egyptian texts and monuments, and a knowledge of Semitic and other Oriental

tongues in which he is equalled by few living Egyptologists. We are, therefore, entitled to expect from him what the French call a "definitive" work on the subject, and the result fully answers our expectations. After some preliminary chapters upon the religious beliefs of the Egyptians generally (to which we shall return later), he presents a detailed study of the sun-god Râ and the somewhat complicated theology that gathered round his worship at Heliopolis; then of Thoth, the god of Hermopolis, and the deities associated with him; of the many Hathors; of Horus, whom he considers the oldest god in Egypt; and of Ptah and the great Memphis triad, which successfully resisted all attempts to bring them into line with the more favoured divinities of later ages. The second volume, after the expected notice of the composite Amen-Râ, and his enemy the Aten or Sunde, worshipped by the "heretic" Amenophis IV., is almost entirely devoted to the consideration of the Osiris myth, and concludes with a detailed description of the lesser gods of the winds, planets, and other stars, and of the decans and deities of the hours, who have, perhaps, been too much neglected by students of comparative religion. A reasonably full index completes the work, while the texts on which the author relies are given in hieroglyphic, transliteration, and translation at the end of each chapter.

We have been thus particular in detailing the contents of the book because we think it is its fulness which will most appeal to the general reader. To use the consecrated phrase, a great storehouse of facts seems to be the ideal that Dr. Budge has set before himself, and a great storehouse of facts he has achieved. It would, indeed, be possible for any fairly well-educated man, after a careful perusal of Dr. Budge's book, to form a pretty accurate conception of the religious ideas of the Egyptians without further material than is here supplied to him, and in saying this we are, perhaps, giving it the highest praise that can be bestowed upon a work of this kind. But the learned will probably ask in addition for some clue through the maze of gods, goddesses, spirits, and demons thus described, and here, too, Dr. Budge is not wanting. All the earlier Egyptologists—Birch, De Rouge, Renouf, Pierret, and especially Brugsch—have thought that they could detect under this mass of cults piled, Egyptian fashion, one upon the other, an underlying stratum of monotheism, or the worship of one supreme God, the Creator of all, too distant and too awful to be alluded to in any but abstract terms, of whom the lesser beings worshipped by the people under the name of gods were but the personified attributes. How much of this theory is based upon facts, and how much upon the prepossessions of those who first ventilated it, we will not stop to inquire. It is sufficient to note that Dr. Budge, who, as is evident from more than one passage in the present work, shares the prepossessions of those who have gone before him, shares also their theory. "The general outline," he tells us,

"of their [i.e., the Egyptians'] religion is clear enough, and it shows us that they possessed a good, practical form of monotheism and a belief in immortality which were already extremely

ancient even in the days when the Pyramids were built."

Now in this we cannot but think that Dr. Budge is wrong. The whole theory really hinges upon the use of the word *netjer*, which in Egyptian is denoted by the symbol of an axe. In the Precepts of Kaquemna and the Precepts of Ptah-hotep, which profess to go back as far as the fourth and fifth dynasties respectively, we constantly find certain things forbidden as being displeasing to *netjer*, certain gifts mentioned as having been given by *netjer*, and the like; and this *netjer* is translated by Dr. Budge, as by others who think with him, to mean "God" in the sense in which that word is used by European writers of the present day. But, apart from all questions of editing—and the oldest MSS. which we have of the precepts in question are not earlier than the seventeenth dynasty—the first of living Egyptologists, M. Maspero, has pointed out that the *netjer* in question was but a colloquial expression, meaning nothing more than "the divine," and used in much the same way that we are accustomed to use the word "Providence" or "Heaven." Proofs that this is so, indeed, can be found in plenty in the book before us. "This Pepi is therefore God (*netjer*), the son of God (*netjer*)," say the Pyramid Texts of one of the kings of the sixth dynasty, who, though deified after his death, was certainly not worshipped as the ineffable and supreme deity.

"I have become pure (*ab kua*), I have become God (*netjer kua*), I have become a spirit (*khu kua*), I have become strong (*user kua*), I have become a soul (*ba kua*),"

says the deceased in one of the Middle Empire chapters of the 'Book of the Dead.' The Egyptian language does not distinguish between substantives and adjectives, but it is plain from the context that to become *netjer* is here thought of as nothing more wonderful or sublime than becoming strong or pure. And that *netjer* by no means always refers to the supreme God is indicated by Dr. Budge himself, when he points out that Osiris is in some passages of the Pyramid Texts "referred to simply as 'god' [*netjer*] without the addition of any name." Such arguments as these, set forth, be it said, with perfect fairness by Dr. Budge, seem to us to demolish the monotheistic theory, to which he clings with a conservatism which will win abundant sympathy.

This apart, we have nothing but praise for the manner in which Dr. Budge develops his idea of the Egyptian Pantheon, the relations of its members to each other, and the effect that the worship of certain of them had upon the morals and politics of the whole empire. Thanks mainly to the strictly feudal constitution of the country, where each nome or province was separately organized under a prince who acknowledged the Pharaoh as his suzerain, but did not allow him, apparently, to interfere with what we now call local government, the Egyptian divinities early divided themselves into triads, each consisting of a god, a goddess, and a child. Many attempts were made by the priestly colleges, to which the worship of these local triads was entrusted, to bring about a *theopatria*, or amalgamation of one god with another, of which the earliest and the most successful

was, perhaps, the endeavour of the priests of Heliopolis to sweep all the different cults of Egypt into the worship of their sun-god Râ. Their highly elaborate construction of an Ennead, or collection of three triads, which, after the manner of such theologies, might consist of ten or even more members, must be read in Dr. Budge's summary, but it had to give way, after the expulsion of the Hyksos, to the Theban system presided over by the composite god Amen-Râ, and served by the famous brotherhood of Amen, who, after attaining to supreme power in Egypt, did their best to ruin a country which was only saved by their flight from it to Ethiopia. And side by side with these great churches, as we should now call them, there all the while subsisted the worship of Osiris, the god of the dead and judge of the underworld, whose cult—dating, as Dr. Budge thinks with probability, from the pre-dynastic times of the Libyan aborigines of the Nile Valley—gradually drew more and more to the front, until the Osiris triad became the principal object of Egyptian worship, and had much influence, as he hints, upon the development of nascent Christianity. It is this Osiris-worship which really inspired the curious funeral customs of the Egyptians, and is generally meant when there is talk about the Egyptian religion.

The story of Osiris, the benefactor and civilizer of the human race, of his betrayal by his brother Set, of his "passion," as it is called in the texts, of the search of his widow Isis for his mutilated body, of his resurrection, and of the vengeance taken by his son Horus upon his murderers, is too well known to need repetition. But, although the figure of Osiris in mummy form appears upon a plaque of the first dynasty, which forms one of the very earliest Egyptian documents that have come to the British Museum, his legend was never told in connected form by any Egyptian, and were it not for the account written by the pseudo-Plutarch about the beginning of our era, it would be impossible to understand the allusions to it contained in the texts. Yet the Osirian creed was never persecuted, so far as we are aware, but actually made alliance with the worship of Râ and any other official cult that happened for the time being to be uppermost; while it presupposes philosophical ideas about the survival of personality and a system of rewards and punishments which far exceed in elevation anything else we know of Egyptian thought. Pace Dr. Budge, there is nothing particularly monotheistic about it, though the monotheism of African races is apt to be little else than the reverence which they feel for absolute and irresponsible government. But the fact that the Osirian religion contained ideas far above the comprehension of primitive folk, and persisted, without much alteration or improvement, from the dawn to the close of Egyptian history, goes far to support the theory that it was not indigenous to Egypt, but was introduced there by some conquering race possessing a far higher civilization than any to which the dynastic Egyptians attained. The same supposition is borne out by the evidence of Egyptian art, which seems to have been both better and freer under the first dynasty than at any time afterwards, and can be paralleled by what has happened

in our own time in other parts of Africa, such as Benin.

We could have wished that this book had contained more frequent reference to the works of German scholars, such as Dr. Erman, Dr. Sethe, and Dr. Wiedemann. That such exclusion is in some measure forced upon a writer by the ostracism practised by the Berlin School against all who do not adhere to it, is perhaps true. But this does not apply to the last-named, who has written much and well on Egyptian religion, and M. Maspero—as we have often noted—always manages to give a full discussion of the Berlin theories without pronouncing their shibboleths. There are also a few mistakes in the present volumes which seem to point to hasty preparation, and can be easily rectified in the second edition, which will no doubt be soon called for. Dr. Budge sins—though in good company—in mistaking *Μορνεύς* for *Μορνεύς* in a quotation from Horapollo, in which the word does not mean "only begotten," but "unique" or "one of a kind." His references are, too, sometimes misleading; as when he quotes from the "*Revue des Religions*," meaning thereby the *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* published by the Musée Guimet, and ignoring the fact that the title he quotes was that formerly used by the *Muséon* of Louvain. Nor is "Religion, p. [so-and-so]" always sufficient indication that the 'Religion und Mythologie' of Brugsch is intended. Such slips being allowed for, we think that Dr. Budge's volumes are a credit to English scholarship, and should in time replace as a work of reference the 'Dizionario' of Lanzzone, which they both complete and supplement.

A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles.—R—Reactive. Edited by W. A. Craigie. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

THE first instalment of *R* appeared, according to previous announcement, in July last, and would have been noticed earlier but for the demoralizing perplexity produced by the astounding omission of "radium." Much ineffectual research has been undertaken in hope of lighting upon a justification for ignoring Prof. Curie's discovery, and the name attached to it at least as far back as 1898. The mystery or miracle of "radium," which has been computed to be "300,000,000 times more radio-active than the most active common material yet experimented with," might reasonably seem incredible to staid lexicographers, and suggest hopes that a title philologically abominable had been conferred on a scientific mare's nest. Yet they have registered with equanimity disused names, barbarous coinages, and exploded ideas. The only 'N.E.D.' quotation for "radio-active" is "1900, Prince Kropotkin"; though in Sir W. Crookes's 'Presidential Address to the British Association, 1898,' "radio-active," "radium," "radium salt," appear as current terms. Under "radiate" (vb.) the Latin "radiare" is wrongly rendered "to furnish with rays, to emit rays." The absence of "rackapee" is chiefly remarkable because there is a reference, "Rac-apee, var. Rackapee." The 'Stanford Dictionary' does not illustrate the spelling of its lemma "rackapee," but quotes Sir

Thomas Herbert, 1665, for "rac-apee." Under "ranunculus" the seventeenth and eighteenth century misspelling "ranunculas" might have been mentioned. The modern legal and commercial use of "re" = "in the matter of," should have been noticed, if not illustrated. It is curious that the old Norse *raþr* is rendered "raft" under "rafter," and "rafter" under "raft." As the only nineteenth-century author quoted for "rapidity" is Prof. Tyndall, (1871), Macaulay (1833) might well have contributed "Peterborough.....marched with great rapidity to Valencia." If "Ranz-des-Vaches" ought to be included in an English dictionary at all, Byron's letter of September 19th, 1816, might be quoted for it, and a variant spelling "Rans": "They played the 'Rans des Vaches' and other airs, by way of farewell." Tennyson's "Purple gauzes, golden hazes, liquid mazes, Flung the torrent rainbow round," might have been preceded by Byron's "went to the torrent.....the sun upon it, forming a rainbow of the lower part of all colours, but principally purple and gold; the bow moving as you move" ('Diary,' September 23rd, 1816).

This interesting section is occupied, with the exception of six pages, in which the Teutonic group of "reach" and its congeners appear, by words beginning with *ra-*. These words include no pronominal forms, and only a few altered compounds beginning with prepositions, consequently the proportion of long articles is small, and the number of short vernacular words relatively large. The early adaptations from French are plentiful, many being among our commonest words, such as "rabbit," "radish," "rage," "rancour," "random," and "range," while others are obsolete, as "rail" = garment, and "raim," a doublet of "redeem," and interesting for its passage of meaning from "ransom" to "plunder" and "rule over," "rapinous" (Caxton), and "ravener." As "on the rantan," "Rats!" and "reach-me-down" are given, we looked for "on the razzle," and for "rapid" in the slang usage as a synonym for "fast," but in vain. The prefatory note tells us, "A notable feature is the prevalence of monosyllabic words having the same form, but of different origin and meaning; the most striking examples of this are *race*, *rack*, *rag*, *raib*, *rap*, *rape*, *rash*, *rat*, *rate*, *rave*, and *ray*." For instance, "race" covers seven substantives, one adjective, and four verbs, all save two substantives and one verb being obsolete or technical. How many persons of average education know that "rack," in "leave not a rack behind," means "driving mist or fog," or that "rap," in "not care a rap," was originally an Irish counterfeit halfpenny which passed current in the eighteenth century? The form "ray" serves for eleven substantives.

Under section 5 of "rack [variant of *wrack*, *wreck* in various senses]," we read "What is cast up by the sea; wrack," illustrated by Ouida's "rake some seaweed together or any other rack of your sea." As the use is not marked "rare," we conclude that later instances had been collected. Here we have an instance, not of a "variant," but of an unwarrantable mistake. A variant, we take it, is either an

old spelling ventured upon when as yet orthography was not, or a spelling generally adopted by a considerable division of users of the language in question, such as the etymologically indefensible "neighbor" in the United States, or a spelling etymologically defensible proposed by competent scholars, such as "rancor" (U.S. and occasional in England). We observe that this alternative spelling "rancor" is not entered as current, though "labor" was recognized as more common than "labour" in the United States. It is difficult to decide precisely the error into which modern writers of "rack" in the sense of "wrack" have fallen, but they seem more likely to have misused "rack" in the sense of remnant, scraps, or left out the first letter of "wrack," than to have used "rack" in a new sense. Insignificant as the point upon which we have insisted may be, it involves the important principle that while lexicographers have to record errors, they should be careful not to appear to sanction them in the case of modern writers. For modern writers are increasingly ignorant of the meaning and use of English words.

The articles on "race"—running, onward movement, and "race"—a group derived from a common stock, the prefix "re-" and the verb "reach" present good specimens of the combination of various perfections which characterize this stupendous work; but the longest and perhaps the most attractive article is that on "raise," causative of "rise," which is arranged under four main senses in thirty-six divisions and ninety subdivisions. The following note on this Scandinavian rival to the Old English form, which is now "rear," is worth quoting:—

"First prominent in the 'Ormulum,' in which it occurs freely in various senses. In the Wyclif Bible, up to the end of Jeremiah, the earlier version regularly has *rear*, while the later has *raise*; but from Ezekiel onwards *raise* appears in both versions. From an early period the word has been extensively used in a variety of senses, the exact development of which is not always perfectly clear. The main senses are distinct enough in themselves, but tend to pass into each other in transferred uses, while with certain objects more than one idea may be present. The addition of *up* to strengthen the verb is less common now than formerly."

We observe that the derivation of the historical "ragman" is still a mystery.

Our readers' memory may be refreshed with respect to the marvellous completeness and immense value, both to scholars and ordinary explorers, of this treasure-house of English literature and language, by the information that these 112 pages contain no fewer than 3,703 words and combinations. About four hundred words are obsolete, and sixty-six are not fully naturalized, while many are obsolescent, rare, or technical. There are more than fourteen thousand illustrative quotations. A large percentage of these constitute a lavish feast or, we might say, collation of entertaining literary fare, reviving old memories and stimulating fresh study.

Poem of the Cid.—Vol. I. Text reprinted from the Unique MS.—Vol. II. Translation.—Vol. III. Notes. By A. M. Huntington. (Putnam's Sons.)

MR. HUNTINGTON is warmly to be congratulated on the luxurious edition of the 'Poem of the Cid' which, with a lavish expenditure of time, care, and money, he has given to the world. While Vollmöller has left incomplete the edition he commenced several years ago, Mr. Huntington, who issued the first of his handsome folios in 1897, has continued with an energy characteristically American his self-appointed task, till now he is able to bring out his third and concluding volume. The whole work has been executed with a typographical excellence that does credit to the De Vinne Press, and it is lavishly ornamented with photographs of various places mentioned in the poem, maps, and reproductions of pages of the precious copy that has alone survived destruction, and also nearly contemporary figures derived from illuminations. The photographs of scenery are appropriate and frequently picturesque, while the maps will be a boon to those who have attempted, with eyes not of the keenest, to follow on Spruner's crowded sheets the Cid's movements in Castile and Aragon. At any rate, such illustrations are much more satisfactory than the fancy portrait of the Cid facing the first title-page. It resembles much more closely a German opera-singer than a daring and rapacious freebooter of the twelfth century.

The text printed in the first volume is a faithful transcript of the manuscript. In refraining from introducing conjectural changes Mr. Huntington has exercised a sound discretion. We have nothing to go upon but the solitary copy that has come down to us. It is mutilated; it is undoubtedly corrupt in several places; and, notwithstanding the labour bestowed of late years on the scansion and phonetics of the poem, a great deal is still obscure and uncertain. The number of emendations that command general assent is not large, and Mr. Huntington has been well advised in relegating critical questions to the notes in the third instalment of his work, and contenting himself with as exact a copy of the manuscript as a most careful scrutiny of every line can attain. The long and short marks of abbreviation occurring in it have by their capriciousness caused him some embarrassment, and he has prudently preferred to substitute a single straight line, and put it above the letters intended to be marked.

In the second volume Mr. Huntington has supplied a literal translation in blank verse. This appears to be the most questionable portion of his undertaking. He has sacrificed the ballad lilt that Frère and Ormsby attained, and has produced a kind of verse that is not melodious, and yet is more halting than prose would have been. It is difficult, while appreciating the closeness of the rendering, to admire such a passage as

Minaya gone, the Lords they turned them back.
He sought Saint Peter's straight, where wait the dames.

Supreme the joy when saw they him appear.
Dismounts Minaya, seeks Saint Peter's Church
For prayer. That done the ladies he approached:

"I bow before you, Dame Ximena, here;
God shield from harm, and so your daughters guard!

My Cid, from where he rests, his greeting sends;
I left him well, with riches very great."

It would be better surely either to adopt Ormsby's plan of rendering the more prosaic parts in prose and the more animated portions in rhyme, or to translate the whole into prose, as the present version does not attain the effect of the original assonants, yet is rendered cumbrous by the effort to preserve a certain rhythm. Mr. Huntington has been forced, for instance, by the exigencies of his metre to adopt in at least one instance an expression hardly intelligible to English readers,—

From this age he passed

Upon Cinquesma day.

In his commentary, which, as has been said, fills his third volume, he has a good note on the date of the Cid's death. He accepts, too, Pidal's remarkable reading of the two closing lines, which have formed such a puzzle to scholars. The ingenious suggestion of restoring *viola* (*vihuola*) is thus set aside. The care bestowed by Mr. Huntington on the collation of the MS. may be judged by his note on the date of the manuscript, where apparently a third C has been erased:—

"After the second C, that at verse 440, where there is no such erasure, or seeming erasure, a space follows C. Measuring these two spaces, I find them to be 1.1 centimetres and 1.05 centimetres wide respectively to the main downstroke of the x."

This may seem trifling, yet it is by such patient observation as this that scholarlike work is done. It is seldom that a rich man devotes much money to literary investigation; it is seldom still that he embarks upon the researches himself, and as we have said before, we wish more people on this side of the water would make as good use of their fortune as Mr. Huntington. He has, it is understood, acquired a valuable private library in the Peninsula, and proposes to reprint several rare texts in it. This is welcome news, for the reprinting of scarce books has languished of late years in Spain, and there is so much to be done that Mr. Huntington's activity will be a boon to every one interested in the fascinating literature of the country.

NEW NOVELS.

The Ways of the Millionaire. By Oswald Crawford, C.M.G. (Chapman & Hall.)

THE first impression of a novel is not always the best. In the case of 'The Ways of the Millionaire' it returns again and again, however, until it becomes fixed. It is that the book is written so carelessly as almost to be slovenly. It is not alone that the characterization is inconsistent; the physical attributes of the characters alter even more comprehensively than do their minds. We are told, for instance, that Sir Peter Mullen, the millionaire-hero, until his fiftieth year never even guessed that there was a right and a wrong way of using the letter *h*. A little further on we learn that he was caught up as a youth into the higher sphere of a cathedral city, that the cathedral clergy lent him books, and that he became leading choirboy, with a beautiful voice and perfect

ear, and sang the solos of great classical composers. That must have been a strange cathedral, choir, clergy, and congregation, to submit thus willingly to a leading & less choirboy. A few years later "Mr. Mullen began to be held and accepted as a leading person in the community, one who could be invited to garden-parties and dinners." Lady Adair's personality is equally distracting. The reader is led to consider the possibility of her having murdered her first husband; but the matter merely drops, never to be explained. She appears to worship her second husband, yet only by an accident escapes from the designs of yet another man. Elsewhere she figures as a sheer conglomerate of virtue. Most remarkable is the strange case of Lady Ashworth, whose descent changes from English to American in the course of a few pages. If it were not hazardous to guess at the origin of this remarkable book, it would seem to have been begun as a short story and to have subsequently outgrown its author's first intention, becoming a novel of conventional length, teaching, like many other novels, various details of the life of the elect, with occasional digressions into India, the City, and a Socialistic experiment of the "Back to the land" kind. But it might have been much better if only the author had troubled to make it so.

Christian Thal. By M. E. Francis (Mrs. Francis Blundell). (Longmans & Co.)

OUR author scored such a distinct success with 'The Manor Farm' last year that we looked forward with no little pleasure to the perusal of this her latest volume. However, we must admit that we are disappointed. 'Christian Thal' is lacking in life and reality, the story is thin and poor, and neither hero nor heroine impresses one as a living character. Mrs. Blundell has got off her own line: her fidelity to nature, her quick perception of country life, and her sympathy with it are all admirable; but in the present volume she is dealing with a different life, which seems to us unsuited to her thought and style, and we can only hope that she will quickly return to her old love.

Dr. Lavendar's People. By Margaret Deland. (Harper & Brothers.)

FROM beginning to end this book forms delightful reading, in the sense that 'Pride and Prejudice' and 'Cranford' are delightful. It may confidently be recommended at this season as a present, and one certain to appeal to any mature intelligence. It was apparently printed and published in America, and its dozen of illustrations are good and characteristic. The book contains half a dozen stories of about fifty pages apiece; and all these deal with the people of one small town in one of the Eastern American States. The Dr. Lavendar of the title is the rector of the parish, a charming old gentleman, a benevolent tyrant of an unconventional sort, well beloved by his parishioners. Miss Wilkins has given us some fascinating work of the same class as this, but nothing of hers is better than 'The Grasshopper and the Ant,' 'The Note,' and other tales here. Those who remember the same author's 'Old Chester Tales' will be glad to learn that Dr. Lavendar's people are

all residents in Old Chester. The author has a simple, cheery, wholesome outlook upon life.

Niece Diana. By Marion Ward. (Isbister & Co.)

THE charming hoiden with a lofty contempt for all other girls, and the maiden aunt perpetually aghast at her niece's propensity to athletics and slang, are venerable types in fiction, but we should have thought that their day was now over. The school-girl who climbs trees and describes a holiday as "ripping" can no longer feel herself a glorious exception to her sex, and the latter-day maiden aunt is generally the possessor of a bicycle, not to speak of other modern habits. Allowing for these anachronisms, we find Niece Diana a winning young person enough, and the story, though innocent of a plot, glides pleasantly along.

The Young Gerande. By Edmund White. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THE earlier portion of this novel is a little unsatisfactory both in structure and material. The novel opens with a series of small episodes, which follow each other abruptly and strike the reader as somewhat disconnected. But when once the characters are fairly introduced and the problem of the book displayed the author handles his subject ably and agreeably. Marcus Gerande, a youth of distinguished abilities and high ambitions, is presented to us just after his arrival in Berlin—it is the Berlin of forty years ago, and the writer shows considerable acquaintance with it—whether he has come to study and fit himself for a political career; here he meets with a German girl equally gifted and equally ambitious, resolved to devote herself to the stage as her profession. The two young people are strongly attracted to each other and become intimate; their reason tells them that love and marriage would be destructive of their ambitions, while their hearts urge them, more or less unconsciously, to unite. It is no new problem, but it is treated with considerable power and insight, and the interest of the reader, though never very wildly excited, is kept alive to the close. The psychology is sound, the language simple and unforced, and the whole book gives one the impression of having been written with spontaneity.

How Hartman Won: a Story of Old Ontario. By Eric Bohn. (Horace Marshall & Son.)

OLD ONTARIO seems a promising subject for a novelist, but it cannot be said that the tale now before us adds much to our knowledge of the district or its inhabitants. The principal characters are a young man in the "lumbering" business, a doctor with an objectionable habit of soliloquizing aloud in sick rooms, and a "school-marm" discreetly resolved to govern her pupils (who include big boys of seventeen) by moral suasion rather than by the cane. This lady is beloved by the two men above mentioned, and Dr. Hartman's victory—a moral one in the strictest sense of the word—consists in his refusing—rather, as we think, to the disadvantage of the schoolmistress—to enter into competition with his rival.

The Stronger Claim. By Alice Perrin. (Nash.)

THIS story is based on the contending claims of country, and the influences of East and West on human character. It opens up the always interesting question of temperamental contrast between the pure European and the mixed Eurasian blood. On this, as may be expected, hinge important racial and consequent social difficulties. The situations arising from these conditions are peculiarly fitted as a pivot for romance and fiction, and have lately been utilized for the purpose. Mrs. Perrin has treated the subject with some knowledge and feeling. Her suggestion is that to the European the inner nature—what there is of it—of the half-caste is a *terra incognita*, and *vice versa*. She makes the son of an Anglo-Indian official and the handsome indolent daughter of a Eurasian auctioneer her hero. Morally, and in a less degree physically, he bears deep traces of his mixed origin. Though not a bad man, the strains of birth do not work together for his good, nor for the good of those with whom he comes in contact. Sent home, as a mere child, to England on his father's death, his paternal relatives are not aware of his country-born relatives on the other side. He marries a charming English girl eventually, and takes her to India, to find (to her and his own dismay) that he is surrounded by his people and his mother, who has married again. Gradually the influences of the old religion and the old manners and customs reassert themselves. Mrs. Perrin's pictures of native, and especially of half-caste, life and the sense of the Eurasian position in the East—between, as it were, two fires—are vividly presented, with a life and colour of their own.

The Days of our Age. By James Alfred. (Grant Richards.)

MR. ALFRED, having written an essay on the difficult question of divorce, appears to have conceived the idea of embodying his views on that subject in a novel. After due allowance has been made for its genesis, 'The Days of our Age' is a book by no means devoid of power and promise. The heroine is married early by her mother to a titled boor. It is natural, therefore, that she should fall in love with a man of more congenial temperament, and creditable to both that the marriage vow is nevertheless not broken. The characters include a thorough-paced villain, always a valuable asset in fiction, who ultimately compasses the lover's death in South Africa in somewhat melodramatic circumstances. Meanwhile at home the required heir is born, but the young mother, apprized by telepathy of the tragedy befallen at the Cape, does not long survive his birth. With more experience, and untrammelled by a thesis, the author will probably do good work. The illustrations should have been omitted.

Lis. By J. E. Muddock. (White & Co.)

THIS is a melodrama of the old-fashioned sort, common enough still upon the boards of certain theatres, but seldom to be met with between the covers of a new novel. Here we have drunken haridans and beast-like men who "bash" their wives in foul

and horrible tenements. We have a blind girl, well born, but kidnapped in her infancy and brought up among the violent men and the drunken haridans, from whose clutches she is rescued by the typical young hero of melodrama, a painter whose "artistic temperament" is much insisted on. The scene is laid in Glasgow, and the language is that of all English melodrama, a dialect of Cockney origin.

LOCAL HISTORY.

By Thames and Cotswold: Sketches of the Country, by W. H. Hutton (Constable), represents, as the preface says, the recreations of a college don for fifteen years. The author is a fine scholar and historian, with a gift for English; and, as the district is very rich in old houses and interesting associations, his book, which includes over one hundred illustrations of a slight, but generally effective sort, is one of singular charm. In some points it might be improved. Much of it is made up of articles which have already appeared in various quarters, and it has not, therefore, the effect of entire freshness. Further, a writer who collects such articles into a book should strike out the repetitions of phrase and allusion which are bound to occur. More might perhaps have been put into some of the chapters. We think that the outsider (or "furriner," as we have heard a Cotswold man call him) is not so well served as he should be. The chapter on Compton Winyates, for instance, gives but indifferent illustrations of part of the house. We recall, even if we had not an excellent water-colour of it before us, the beautiful colour and details of the fabric; but our author does not enlighten us on these points. In fact, he is a little casual, as many charming persons are, and therefore less useful than he might be.

But these are minor matters. We would not leave the impression that we are dissatisfied with a book which shows much loving observation. The author has made the beautiful old town of Burford his own, and, wandering far and wide in the Cotswold country, has been embarrassed, we dare swear, by the task of selection. There is still much more, as he hints, to be seen and noted, and we hope that he will add to his varied list of worthies. We get a glimpse of the horse races of Burford, the glories of Chastleton House, Hastings at Daylesford, Lechlade, Chipping Campden, and the excellent revival of "Olympick Games" by one Robert Dover early in the seventeenth century. Traces of wilder times are not wanting in this largely unspoiled district. Mr. Hutton tantalizes the reader by hinting at the story of the butler who succeeded to his master's estate. In the local mouth it is certainly effective. On the same page he says of an ill-defined locality:—

"After the corporation banquet in a little town hard by, there being no lighting of the streets so late, the junior burgess was deputed to walk first, having loaned his shirt-tail, that by their [sic] light his grave seniors might find the way to their houses. The shirt-tails were known to the wits as 'the local moon.'"

The great Lord Bathurst at Cirencester erected an artificial ruin, of which the following story is told:—

"A traveller, being shown round the building by an aged woman, 'expressed a degree of pleasure and surprise' at its great antiquity. 'This is nothing,' said the old person, 'for my lord intends building one two hundred years older very soon.'"

One cannot write about such a country, after a visit of a week or so, stuff which will satisfy those who know it. Yet this sort of factitious enthusiasm is sadly common and widely lauded by the friendly and the ignorant. There is the more reason, therefore, to praise the man

who knows and who can write, and we owe our best thanks to Mr. Hutton for his delightful volume. There is a map of the country, but the absence of an index is annoying.

We hardly know whether to treat under history or under art and archaeology *Chelsea Old Church*, by Mr. Randall Davies, the son of the well-known incumbent, assisted by Mr. Hubert Horne (Duckworth & Co.). We are able to congratulate Mr. Horne upon his admirable preface, and Mr. Davies upon the book. It is impossible to detach the church from the little town: "the village of palaces," as it has been called. The volume has, then, become a history of the old parish more solidly founded upon documentary evidence than are some of its many predecessors. Among the art references in the volume are some to Holbein, connecting him with drawings for work in the church here figured in illustrations, and to the son and brother of the great Bernini. The fine bust of Cromwell which faces the St. Stephen's chapel entrance to the Central Hall in Westminster Palace is attributed to "Bernini," though, in all probability, not from the chisel of the "Cavaliere." It is clear from the documents here printed that a whole family of Berninis were working in Rome for English patrons at about the date of the execution of the bust, which is probably later than the life of Cromwell. It is with regret that we lay down Mr. Davies's excellent book.

ANTIQUARIAN LITERATURE.

Patent Rolls of Henry III., 1225-1232. (Stationery Office.)—This is the second volume (would that that numeral were stamped on the back of it!) of the excellent edition which sets forth at full length the Patent Rolls of the reign of Henry III. In welcoming it there is little to add to what we wrote when the first volume was published in 1901. Like its predecessor, it is the work of Mr. J. G. Black, "with some assistance from Mr. C. T. Martin," and both these gentlemen deserve warm congratulation for the solidity and accuracy of both text and index. The latter is exceedingly well done. We have found by considerable testing that its sins both of omission and commission are but infinitesimal. Among the former may be mentioned that of leaving out "Byeaumes" on p. 548, a place which is only indexed under "Beaumes." A more important omission is that of Susanna, a hitherto unknown daughter of Llywelyn ab Iorworth, indexed only under Llywelyn, and not under her own name. Among the errors of commission there is very little to record, especially as the identification of place-names with their modern equivalents has been carried out with great pains, thoroughness, and general success. We note the remarkable skill shown in the referring of French place-names to their present forms. For instance, the letters patent issued by Henry III. during his expedition to Brittany and Poitou in 1230 are dated at a large number of obscure places, nearly all of which are rightly identified. It is quite by exception that even a slight slip is made. We feel sure, however, that the "Forest of Baconeis" of p. 98 is not St. Pierre de Bassens (Gironde), since the context shows clearly that the place must be in Saintonge. This makes the other suggestion of Bignay (Charente Inférieure) much more probable. Is it not more likely that the monks of "Grandis Silva" (p. 141), who had to make a payment at Bordeaux, came from La Sauve, within the diocese of Bordeaux, rather than from the remote Grandselve, in the diocese of Toulouse? The Stoke of pp. 113-14, noted on p. 633 as ["Co. Berks?"], is certainly not in Berkshire, as it is in the diocese of Lincoln. It is more likely one of the two Oxfordshire Stokes near Wallingford.

But it is a stroke of real insight to see that the "Merse" of p. 280 is Marsh Gibbon, near Bicester. And why is Maud's Castle called Pain's Castle (p. 551)? The two places are distinct, though both in the modern Radnorshire. It is very seldom that, as on p. 390, there is a whole list of Gascon names which defy identification. There is not very much strikingly new matter to be found, for the Patent Rolls have long been a well-worked field, but the convenience of having the whole text before one at once facilitates minute corrections and sometimes suggests amplification of details. Thus Henry III.'s invitation to the dissentient Paris students in 1229 did not, as Dr. Rashdall says, "promise to assign certain towns for their residence," but invited them to settle in whatsoever English towns they would (p. 257). The references to Hawise, mother of Archbishop Grey of York, on pp. 451 and 454 show that the pedigree of that prelate in Dugdale is wrong, and that he was certainly the son of John de Grey of Rotherfield and his wife Hawise. And the record of loans from Italian bankers, notably one of 2,220 marks in 1232 (pp. 514-15), shows clearly that the dependence of the Crown on ultramontane financiers considerably preceded the time of Henry's acceptance of the Sicilian throne for his younger son Edmund, the date generally given as that of the beginning of his dependence on these foreign bankers.

Calendar of the Close Rolls of Edward III.,—Vol. VI. 1341-1343. (Stationery Office.)—It is a fresh small help to readiness of reference that this new volume is the first of the Close Rolls series of the reign of Edward III. which has a number assigned to it on the title-page. We regret that a false regard for symmetry of lettering has probably prevented the numeral from appearing on the back of the book. It is much easier to refer to volume and page than to be forced, as hitherto, to quote the exact years of the reign calendared in the work. Mr. A. B. Hinds is responsible both for the text and index of this volume, as of its three immediate predecessors, and has accomplished his task with the skill which we now both expect and find in these invaluable aids to the minute study of mediæval history. The place-names are not quite so hard to identify in these fourteenth-century volumes as they are in earlier records, but they present a good many difficulties which have been in large measure successfully solved. It is a pity, then, that Mr. Hinds should have been found wanting in a very easy identification. The "Lampader" of p. 487 is not, as has many times before been pointed out, "Llanbedr, co. Merioneth," or any other of the numerous Llanbedrs in Wales. It is Llanbadarn, in Cardiganshire, and virtually represents the town of Aberystwyth. Makers of these calendars really ought to read the reviews of both their own and other people's calendars. We do not understand why Mauleon on p. 501 is identified with "Châtillon-sur-Sèvre, Deux Sèvres" (p. 727). A castle in Poitou is an unlikely place for Edward's subjects to stow away goods taken from subjects of the King of Aragon; and a little thought would have shown Mr. Hinds that no place on the Sèvre was likely to be in Edward's power in 1342. What is meant is the well-known Mauléon, in Gascony, which Edward did hold, and which is but a few miles from the Aragonese border. On p. 736 "Derbyshire [co. Lancaster], bailiff of," needs a word of explanation that what is meant is the hundred of West Derby. The alien priory of Llangenydd (pp. 358 and 361) is wrongly indexed under "co. Gloucester." It is really in Gower, and, curiously enough, the sheriff of Hereford exercises some jurisdiction over it. The "prior of St. Mary Rochernadour" of p. 362 is not, as the index, p. 799, suggests, of "St. Mary de Rocher" at Mortain, but of Rocamadour, the famous pilgrimage church

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nothing

of the Virgin in Quercy, which plays so interesting a part in the biography of Henry II. "Rocamadour" itself is not mentioned in the index. If such entries as these show an occasional remissness or incautiousness, it is the exception not to find the help that one wants in such matters. A praiseworthy feature of the book is the extent and fulness with which the index is made to serve as a subject-index.

Mr. L. O. Pike's *Year-Books of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Years of the Reign of Edward III.* (Stationery Office) is the eighth volume of the Rolls Series edition of the year-books of that reign, and comes only two years after the volume including the earlier part of the seventeenth year of Edward. This new volume is marked by the same qualities as those of its predecessors, all of which have had the advantage of Mr. Pike's editorial skill. We welcome the solid work involved in editing the text, and the guidance to the contents given in the too brief introduction. We still lament the time and trouble wasted in translation, and think that the meagreness of the "index of persons and places" when compared with the "index of matters" makes access to the miscellaneous facts easier for the lawyer than for the historian. We glean from the interesting action for trespass brought by the Abbot of Furness against the bailiff of the Hundred of Lonsdale that there never was a sheriff's tourn in the county of Lancaster before the time of Henry III., though the articles of the tourn were previously presented at the county court. We know not what light, if any, this dictum throws on the development of the Honour of Lancaster into the status of an ordinary shire. Mr. Pike's series of Edward III. Year-Books, and the companion Rolls volumes on the Year-Books of Edward I.—in which he has also borne his share of the labour of editing—make us anxious to see some of the Year-Books of Edward II.'s intervening reign set forth in modern editions. This will not, however, be the function of the Rolls Series, which at present will not extend much beyond the completion of Mr. Pike's special task as regards the third Edward.

Acts of the Privy Council. Vol. XXVII. (Stationery Office).—The six months covered by this volume (March–September, 1597) are chiefly remarkable for a display of military activity. As is pointed out by the editor, Mr. Dasent, England was keeping on foot at the time troops in France, in Ireland, and in the Low Countries, besides dispatching an expeditionary force against Spain in the summer on board the fleet which had been assembled for another attack on Philip. The rough-and-ready methods of former times were rapidly becoming antiquated as warfare developed in the hands of continental soldiers, and it was necessary to give the militia a better training at the hands of professional soldiers. In the Register is found an interesting list of the "superintendents" and captains appointed for this purpose, the comparatively small force of six thousand "choise men" being demanded of the counties to be trained for home defence. Mr. Dasent has much to tell us, in his preface of more than thirty pages, about the "Islands voyage," as the naval expedition was termed, but has to confess that the entries concerning it in the Register "are few and meagre." The result is that for this, as well as for French, Irish, and other matters, he has repeatedly to base his narrative on 'The Hatfield Papers' (which he is not editing) instead of on the Register itself. We have noticed this tendency before in these volumes, and its result is to give the reader a misleading impression of their contents by discussing the subjects with which they do not deal rather than those with which they do. For instance, the preface says nothing of the order of July 28th for the

demolition of playhouses, instructing the Middlesex justices to

"send for the owners of the Curtayne Theatre [i.e., "the theatre nere to Shorditch"] or anie other common playhouse, and injoyne them by vertue hereof forthwith to plucke downe quite the stages, galleries, and rooms that are made for people to stand in, and so to deface the same as they may not be ymployed agayne to suche use."

So, too, we have no mention of "the lewd plaie that was plaied in one of the plaiehowes on the Bancke Side, contanyng very seditious and sclanderous matter," with the result that some of the players were arrested, among them one who was not only an actor, but "a maker of parte of the said plaie," and suspicious papers "fownde in Nash his lodgings." Similarly unnoticed is the letter to the Sheriff of Suffolk requiring him "straightly to prohibite" the performance of "stage playes" at Hadleigh in "the Whitson holydaies," and to "cause the stage prepared for them to be plucked downe." Again, we have no allusion to the really quaint incident of the Irish rebel's head. The Lord Deputy is informed that, though the queen was pleased at his predecessor's "taking away that rebell Feagh MacHugh," yet

"whereas the head of the rebell hath bin sent over hither into England to make (as it is to be supposed) the fact either of greater note heere or the more acceptable unto her Majestie, wee do finde that it would have pleased her Majestie much better that the same should have bin kept there and bestowed amonge the like fragments of the heades and carcasses of such rebels then to be sent over into this realme. Nevertheless because the meaning was good the errour was the lesse, and the best and most easie amendment thereof is to send the head backe againe by the same messenger, which wee have caused to be done by her Majesty's appointment."

Even in those days difficulty was found in dealing with soldiers returned from the wars, and there were

"great numbers of masterles men and soche as have served in the warres and of those that were latly levied for to serve in the sea voyage that doe kepe within and about the cytty of London, havinge no meanes to maintaine themselves, but by stealinge and lewde practizes."

Some interesting glimpses of the perennial trouble on the Scottish border are found in this volume, while the equally persistent trouble of piracy in the Channel is the subject of several entries, Mr. Dasent observing that "Irishmen, Danes, Frenchmen, and Scotsmen alike had cause to invoke the assistance of the Admiralty Court." Among the few entries relating to recusants is one concerning "diverse disloyall subjectes" in Yorkshire, who "by their Popishe religion have bin inducued to treasonable practizes against this State." To cite this as evidence "that capital punishment was still inflicted on Papists" seems to be hardly exact. The offenders were only punished when their religion led to "treasonable practices."

Catalogue of Ancient Deeds. Vol. IV. (Stationery Office).—All who are engaged in topographical or genealogical study will welcome this further instalment of the admirable catalogue of miscellaneous deeds at the Public Record Office. It has been prepared by Mr. J. M. Thompson and Mr. A. Story Maskelyne, and the latter is responsible for the elaborate indexes, which represent skilful and indefatigable labour in identifying the places named in the documents. Perhaps, however, the most welcome feature for general historians in this volume is the interesting index to subjects, to which their attention may well be directed. Legal, social, economic, agricultural, and miscellaneous antiquities receive here illustration, while Mr. Maskelyne gives special attention to the light thrown by his documents on the origin of personal names, a subject on which a sad amount of nonsense is still current. Of the 4,300 deeds here abstracted in English,

many are of very early date, a goodly number belonging to the twelfth century. Among these last is one in which Henry FitzAilwin, the first Mayor of London, appears as an Alderman as early as 1177. This is, we think, the first occasion on which he has been found so described.

JUVENILE BOOKS.

We cannot say much in favour of *Sibyl*, by May Baldwin (Chambers), *A Gay Charmer*, by L. T. Meade (same publisher), or *Hilda at School*, by Mary MacLeod (Wells Gardner). They are all, we suppose, meant to be "books for girls," but, to our mind, they are neither inspiring nor inspiriting, and we think that girls ought to be treated to better fare. 'Sibyl' is the story of an American beauty, "Miss Potter, the millionairess," who comes to London for the season.

"Not a word had been said to Miss Potter about her mother's real reason for coming to London. 'I would rather you married an Englishman than an American,' she had once said to her daughter; but the latter knew quite well that she was meant to marry a title."

The duke appears in the first chapter, but Miss Potter has much to do before she fulfils her destiny, and the story of her adventures is told with much elaboration. 'A Gay Charmer' and 'Hilda at School' deal chiefly with perverse children who seem to live their trivial lives apart from the grown-up world, and whose freaks and pranks are certainly not worth chronicling.

It is refreshing to turn to *The Daughters of a Genius*, by Mrs. de Horne Vaizey (Chambers), a pleasant story pleasantly told. The plot is not new, but that we can forgive. There are not many new things under the sun. The four heroines are poor and friendless, but they are brilliant and spirited, and not a little ambitious; they fight a good fight, and the reader cannot but be interested in their fate.

Dorothy's Difficulties, by M. C. Cordue (Nelson), is a nursery story, or rather a couple of nursery stories, of no great interest; and *Jake* (same publisher) by Adela Frances Mount, is a pathetic tale of the slums.

Only Toys (Grant Richards) is yet another example of F. Anstey's pleasant proficiency in the gentle art of table-turning; it is, moreover, an excellent moral lesson for superior children. Of course, in common with many other writers, the author has not been able to resist the obsession of using the dream form of story, but he employs the well-worn formula with so much gaiety and wit as to render it once more acceptable. He tells how Torquil and Irene, two particularly nice little prigs who despise and neglect their toys, are converted to a more wholesome point of view by no less a personage than Santa Claus. Certainly if there is any one who understands the true inwardness of toys, that person is F. Anstey.

An Old London Nosegay, gathered from the *Day-book of a Kinswoman of the Lady Fanshawe*. By Beatrice Marshall. (Seeley & Co.)—Miss Beatrice Marshall has followed successfully in her mother's footsteps by providing very readable historical tales for the benefit of the rising generation. Her latest story is of London in the time of the Great Rebellion, and especially of the experiences of Mrs. Lovejoy Young and her stepdaughters at the Grey House in Chancery Lane. Though these ladies were acutely affected by the stirring events of the day, the main interest of the book lies in the pleasing, if slightly modernized picture it supplies of the domestic life of the time. Laurel is as attractive a character as her kinswoman Lady Fanshawe, and is on excellent terms with her stepmother, by whose narrative the inferiority of her own

family to that into which she has had the happiness to marry is very ingenuously betrayed.

The Magic Forest, by Stewart Edward White (New York, Macmillan Company), would make a charming present for a youngster of either sex. In it the art of the American illustrator may be seen to great advantage, and readers of such of the author's previous works as 'The Blazed Trail' will not need telling that the writing is good. It is the story of a little New York lad who, in a fit of sleep-walking, leaves the luxurious sleeping-car of a Canadian Pacific express train, during a momentary stoppage on the prairie, and awakes some time afterwards to find himself absolutely alone, clad in night-gown, slippers, and knickerbockers, upon a remote and snow-covered hillside. Some hours later the boy is found by a nomadic party of Indians, who take him with them on their travels. The book is called a modern fairy story, and certainly has about it some of the improbability of that sort of fiction. But it has, too, full store of the glamour of wild life among the forests and plains of North America.

La Mission de Geneviève, by B. A. Jeanroy (Paris, Hachette et Cie.), is a pleasantly written story of an invalid girl who devotes herself to the reunion of her long-separated parents. There has been no serious offence on either side, but the claims on the husband's side have been too much for the wife, whose own mother has upheld her in refusing to return to the home which in a moment of pique she had left. Several well-intentioned neighbours help to bring about the reconciliation, which is effected in Italy, when Geneviève is thought to be on her death-bed. Perhaps the best-drawn character in the book is Uncle Wilhelm, who refuses to marry on account of the violent temper which he supposes himself to possess, but who is, in reality, full of the milk of human kindness. A welcome element of humour is introduced in the person of his protégé Paul Emile. Highly diverting is the relation of how this original, when sitting for his *baccalauréat*, composed his French theme by making a medley of the three subjects supplied to candidates; and still more amusing are the *rencontre* with his patron on the "teuf-teuf" or automobile, with its sequel of an action at law, the terrors of the amiable offender, and the incident of the imaginary death-bed which alone prevented the fatuous ingrate from prosecuting an appeal. Few of the vignettes by Tofani, with which the volume is profusely illustrated, greatly take our fancy.

Three Hundred Games and Pastimes, by E. V. and E. Lucas (Grant Richards), is a third edition of the book originally entitled 'What Shall We Do Now?' The book is beautifully produced and printed, and deserves to be—as, indeed, it is—in demand in many homes. The range of subjects and occasions covered is wide, but the authors seem equal to all emergencies.

Stories from Grimm Retold, by Edward Shirley (Nelson), are provided with attractive full-page illustrations in colour besides small ones, and so simply phrased that they should secure attention.

My Book of Noble Deeds (Blackie) is a slender volume, telling some famous stories of heroism well, while the illustrations are pleasing on the whole, if bold. It is a cheap book certainly for the money.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

HAD not the views of Mr. Valentine Chirol on the Baghdad Railway and on our relations with Russia in Persia and the Persian Gulf become known to the public through his

powerful letters in the *Times*, to which he is one of the most valued contributors, it would have been necessary for us to state them at length. As it is, the book in which the letters are expanded is of immediate interest on account of Lord Curzon's tour. It is not easy to say whether Mr. Chirol inspired Lord Curzon or Lord Curzon Mr. Chirol, but it is an undoubted fact that the views of the Viceroy and of the brilliant journalist are in accord. *The Middle Eastern Question* (Murray) shows how our policy has been to maintain a fictitious "integrity and independence" of Turkey, China, and Persia, under cover of respect for which Russia has now substituted herself for these powers, who have become her "paid hall-porters"—to adopt the Russian phrase. Alongside these a number of smaller powers have fallen under Russian influence, as, for example, Montenegro, Bulgaria, and now Servia and Thibet. In Afghanistan and in Korea a similar process has been checked. Can Russia be kept out of the shores of the Persian Gulf; can her influence be excluded from Thibet? These are the points at which Lord Curzon has, on Mr. Chirol's lines, entered upon a policy similar to that which led to the Afghan delimitation under Gladstone. It will take Russia twenty years or more to digest Manchuria, and to crush Japanese intervention in Korea and at Peking. In the mean time she must have peace. It is this fact, not named by Mr. Chirol, which lends to his policy a chance of success. If we were going to assert ourselves on the Gulf, we ought not to have accepted the Russo-Persian customs arrangement, and the Belgian custom-houses on the shores where we alone had made a customs system possible. The Russo-Persian agreement, as Mr. Chirol shows, was made public at St. Petersburg on the day on which the Shah received the Garter on the advice of Ministers. The weak point in Mr. Chirol's scheme is that he would draw an inland line which Russia is not to cross in Persia, and south of which our influence is to be dominant, without a land force to support it. At that point Russia will, to use his own words, exert "irresistible pressure on us at any moment of international crisis." The only practical plan of checking Russia anywhere inland is that of egging on Japan, protecting and financing Japan, which has evidently been rejected. But the actual shores of the Gulf are within our reach, and there we can indeed do as we please.

Mr. Chirol does not seem to understand the wish of the late Amir of Afghanistan "to have a representative of his own in London." It was based on jealousy of Persia. He used to say: "Persia is a mere Russian shadow; yet you treat the Shah as a great emperor. I am a really independent and powerful king, and I am treated diplomatically as though I were an Indian feudatory prince." Mr. Chirol thinks that India has been strengthened by the raising of the new contingents of native states. But they require as a set-off, if the due proportions are to be preserved, a costly increase of the white force in India. He attaches more importance than we do to French coaling stations, apart from naval strength. Of what use can Muscat be to a power which is now likely to write off large expenditure at Diego Suarez on the ground that no ships can be spared for service in distant waters? The American term "carpet-bagger" is applied to the German Kaiser in Turkey, when what is meant is "drummer," or, as we say, "bagman." There is a little "new" English, as, for example, "linked up" when what is meant is "joined," "connected," or "linked together." But, on the whole, Mr. Chirol's is an admirable book, which every politician should possess.

Books on the war are no longer coming forth from the press in droves, but *War Sketches in Colour*, by Capt. S. E. St. Leger

(A. & C. Black), needs no text to recommend its pretty pictures. It is, indeed, almost a pity that parts of the volume should detract from the value of the whole. There is an account of the blockade of Kimberley (not by the author) which does not tally with the evidence now in our hands, and Capt. St. Leger would have done better to put his friend's contribution in the fire. When he writes in his own person he tells a very different story. The relieving force was able to obtain from Kimberley stocks, "stores"—indeed, everything except whisky, including, however, excellent Cape brandy. It is deplorable that the orders to Lord Methuen, months earlier, which produced terrible loss of life and lengthened the war, should have been based on statements from Kimberley which were grossly untrue. The Cape Police are praised; Col. Kekewich, the man who was in command, and who kept his head and told the truth, says in his evidence "they crumpled up." We fail to understand why "the Indian tonga wallas," who were supplied by a Rawal Pindi contractor, should have "offered up a fervent prayer to Buddha." They may have been Lamaist Mongols from the hills, but we believe not.

COL. PILCHER publishes through Messrs. Isbister *Some Lessons from the Boer War*, in which he gives us the results of his great experience as a column commander. His views are those which were expressed by us week by week in our reviews of the daily volumes that issued from the press during the war itself. Though an infantry officer, Col. Pilcher is on the cavalry side as against our present ridiculous M.I. system, which gives us "the cheaper article in time of peace.....the smartest officers and the smartest men from Infantry battalions.....to turn them into inferior cavalry." Cavalry should be small men on small horses. Such, with many hints on tactics, is Col. Pilcher's teaching. We note a press blunder of "in direct fire" for *indirect fire*, which spoils the artillery chapter.

SIR HORACE RUMBOLD, in *Further Recollections of a Diplomatist* (Arnold), is even more interesting than he was in his earlier volumes. We regret, after the publication of Mr. Morley's 'Gladstone,' the somewhat crude form of Sir Horace Rumbold's 'Majuba' and 'Gordon,' and we do not agree with his censure on Switzerland for maintaining the right of asylum. The case of Leo Deutsch, as set forth in a volume recently reviewed by us, shows what happens under the forms which Sir Horace would prefer. But, on the whole, the book is kind and just and well informed. The character-sketches of Count Peter Schouvaloff (spelt two ways in the text) and of Sir George White are as finely drawn as possible, and rise to the heights of history. The story of the public attack on White by Schouvaloff is abominable and "incredible," but true.

We were among those who attacked Mr. Harry De Windt for his defence of the Russian transportation system, and we now note with pleasure that in his new book he shows how right we were. *From Paris to New York by Land* (Newnes) is the record of an adventurous journey in search of a Bering Sea railway line. Governor Gilpin, of Colorado, when in England, invited old British dames to visit him, and, finding they disliked the sea, would say, "Just you hold on, marm, till we build you a rail across Bering Straits." Mr. De Windt's map shows that the route he followed by the convict settlements on the Arctic Sea is not the line which will be adopted, though a coast line may perhaps one day be made. The account of the "politicals" in the far north-east of Siberia, sent to almost certain lunacy, is as terrible as any which has

been penned, even by Mr. Deutsch. The story of the Shaman secret ceremonies is told without reference to 'Robinson Crusoe,' in which they are described. The temperature records are given in the Fahrenheit scale, though the Russians use Réaumur. Forty-four degrees below zero R., with a wind, is less unusual in Siberia than Mr. De Windt thinks. We prefer it to minus twenty degrees R. in damp Petersburg. It is less cold on the Arctic Sea than it is further inland and further south.

My Poor Relations, by Maarten Maartens (Constable & Co.), contains one longish story of ninety odd pages, and thirteen short stories. All deal with Dutch peasant life, all are admirable pieces of workmanship, all are real, and all are sad. The author's philosophy of life—and he evidently has his philosophy—is not a cheerful one; but then he would probably say that realists cannot be cheerful. They certainly seldom are, in their work. But, on the other hand, they are not by any means all of them artists. The present author is an artist, and though his work were unrelievedly gloomy, it would be worth reading for its true and delicate workmanship. And it is not unrelievedly gloomy. It is lightened by flashes of real humour, and its sadness is of a strong, uncomplaining, sane sort; the sadness which a thinking man may not hide from himself when he studies nature; the sadness, in short, which is at the root of most things for such as can see and understand. When the comprehension of this is arrived at without bitterness, strength is proven. Such strength is to be found here. Apart from these considerations, 'My Poor Relations' is well worth reading by reason of the clear and truthful etchings it contains of Dutch landscapes, Dutch country towns, and Dutch country life. This author has done truer service in the way of the portrayal of rural life in the Netherlands than any of the "kailyard" school have done for the peasant life of Scotland.

We have before us in large paper a limited edition of *The Vicar of Wakefield* (Methuen), with twenty-four coloured plates by Rowlandson. It is admirably printed in large clear type, and simply yet effectively bound in grey and white. We have already noticed the small issue of this doubly classic edition, and we now add that those will be fortunate who secure a copy of this one. Renewed acquaintance with Rowlandson's designs impresses their merits upon us. His pictures make excellent wholes; the details are never scamped, but added with a sure hand. Occasionally we see too much of the caricaturist, but we get strength of characterization which lesser artists lack. The Vicar is somewhat distressingly gifted with the protuberance which is, according to the old academic joke, the "orbis veteribus notus," but he does not lack dignity, e.g., in the 'Departure from Wakefield,' where he rides his horse well. His daughters are, as we have said, presented as hoidens, but there is support in the text for such a view of them. That Rowlandson was capable of the idyllic is seen in his rustic backgrounds, and in such a picture as that of 'The Dance in the Open.' The strangely haggard faces which appear are present in all the artist's best work, but many of his scenes are spirited and in no way caricatures. It is the work of a great man, though not at his best.

ANOTHER elaborate and well-printed edition of the *Vicar*, with thirteen coloured illustrations by John Massey Wright, has also been sent us by Messrs. A. & C. Black. Forster's essay on the story is added, and Mr. Grego explains the merits of the artist in a rather verbose introduction. These illustrations are likely to be popular; indeed, we find that the ordinary person is much taken with their sweet and soft sentiment, their delicacy of hue. There is nothing great about

them, nothing combative or disturbing. They outdo Stothard in their prettiness, but we cannot take them as representing "the true spirit" of Goldsmith. They make Mr. Burchell mild, and the two flashy ladies who burst in on the family show to our eye little signs of their breeding and manners. Still the figures that can fairly be made cherubic, such as the old farmer and the little boys, are well hit off; while in the discovery of Olivia by the Vicar, Wright for once forgets his mere prettiness, and is moving.

WE are overdone nowadays with selections, but we are glad to see *Popular Ballads of the Olden Time*, selected and edited by Frank Sidgwick (Bullen), as it forms an excellent introduction to a sadly neglected source of poetry. This "first series" deals with ballads of romance and chivalry. There is a longish introduction, a preface explaining the sensible methods adopted, a glossary of ballad commonplaces, in which it is suggested that "bent his bow and swam" refers to the elbow, and a careful list of books for ballad study. We hope that these aids will not frighten the casual reader, for they are all put before the text. There is a brief introduction to each ballad, and words at all likely to baffle readers are glossed at the bottom of the page. We congratulate Mr. Sidgwick (who is, it appears, a partner with Mr. Bullen) on his enterprise, and hope that it will receive ample encouragement.

Mrs. Piper and the Society for Psychical Research (Brimley Johnson) is translated by Noralie Robertson from the French of M. Sage, and equipped by a preface from Sir Oliver Lodge. It is a lucid and highly interesting account of the supernormal exhibitions of a woman who has never in fifteen years, under most varied conditions, been convicted of any kind of fraud or used paraphernalia of flowers, vases, tables, &c., commonly associated with spiritualism. Mrs. Piper belongs to genuine psychology, and we are glad to see this short account of her powers, but we wish to state that we endorse no theories of the world of spirits.

AN exceptional addition to the "Little Library" (Methuen) is a *Selection from the Poems of George Darley*, edited by Mr. R. A. Streatfeild, who recently looked after a reissue of Darley, and has written on him in the *Quarterly Review*. The introduction is full of interesting details and points, and includes an admirable letter of Darley which shows him as akin to his friend Lamb in style as well as stammering. Darley was an *Athenæum* reviewer, and has not, as Mr. Streatfeild thinks, escaped the charge of prejudice in modern times. Knowing modern facts and fancies, we do not take this very seriously. Certainly Darley was a rare poet, and yet one whose reputation profits by such a selection as is skilfully presented here. He should have his place in English anthologies, although he no longer figures as a Tudor poet in the 'Golden Treasury' of Palgrave.

THE Cambridge University Press have not hitherto taken much part in the production of English classics, but if they produce books as handsomely as their edition of Earle's *Microcosmographie* they will soon make an enviable reputation. The limited edition before us is beautifully bound in velvet calf, with the title in green on the front of the book, and printed in a luxurious small quarto size. The handmade paper exhibits a new type which has been designed exclusively for the University Press, and is to be used, in the first instance, for the production of a few English classics, printed from the earliest or best texts, without change in spelling or punctuation. The type resembles that of the Chiswick Press, and is somewhat too closely set together to our taste. It combines Roman and medieval capitals, and is, in fact, enterprisingly various. We

need more acquaintance with it to judge it fairly. This edition is also to be had in paper boards. Sidney's 'Defence of Poesie,' in the same style, is to follow. Meanwhile we may say that Earle's delightful 'Characters,' some neatly epigrammatic on the past, others still apt to the present, fully deserve their typographical honours. The Press are to be congratulated on their new venture.

MESSRS. SCHULZE, of Edinburgh, produce exceptionally choice books, as our readers know. There is a sense of amplitude and dignity about their tasteful large-type edition of *Pascal's Thoughts*, translated by Isaac Taylor, which commends it to all book-lovers. The binding is just what it should be.

WE have received various volumes of *The Stage Shakespeare* (Collins), which is about the same size as the "Temple" edition. The volumes are illustrated by pictures of notable actors and actresses who have taken parts in the plays. A good glossary at the end, and an introduction, including notices of performances, are added. In 'Coriolanus,' for instance, the illustrations include J. P. Kemble, Sir Henry Irving, and Mr. F. R. Benson as Coriolanus, and Miss Ellen Terry and Miss Geneviève Ward as Volumnia, besides a painting by Gavin Hamilton of these two characters. It will be seen that the wants of the modern playgoer are well catered for.

SMALLER in size, *The Little Quarto Shakespeare* (Methuen) is a model of compactness, and excellently adapted to the needs of the everyday man. It contains introductions and foot-notes by Mr. W. J. Craig, whose name is a guarantee for good, sound work. Each play is prettily bound in blue leather, it will go into an ordinary envelope, and altogether is one of the cheapest things at a shilling that we have ever seen. It should make its way into many a pocket and knapsack.

Whitaker's Almanack for 1904 (Whitaker) has appeared. We have tested it carefully in details, and find that it fully maintains its reputation for accuracy. This year there are several additions, including sections on trade and fiscal matters.—*Whitaker's Peerage for 1904* is also out, a concise and useful record.—The new *Almanach Hachette* is full of all kinds of information, well illustrated, and distinguished by that vivacity which seems beyond the reach of our solid compilers of statistical matter.—The new 'Daily Mail' Year-Book, published by the Amalgamated Press, is sixty-four pages larger than usual, and is especially commended by the articles which have been secured from experts on both sides of the fiscal dispute, education, discussed by such men as Mr. M. E. Sadler and Mr. Sidney Webb, and social problems by Canon Barnett. There is very little about literature and art; but there is a good index.

THE Christmas issue of the *Publishers' Circular* (Sampson Low), with its illustrated review of books, forms an attractive number. Five hundred and fifty books receive notice, and the illustrations are well chosen.

WE have on our table *South Carolina as a Royal Province, 1719-1776*, by W. Roy Smith (Macmillan),—*Mayfield*, by E. M. Bell-Irving (Clowes),—*Christian Socialism in England*, by A. V. Woodworth (Sonnenschein),—*Notes from a Lincolnshire Garden*, by A. L. H. A. (Elkin Mathews),—*Ornamental Turning*, by J. H. Evans, Vol. I. (G. Pitman),—*The Fiscal Dispute Made Easy*, by W. H. Mallock (E. Nash),—*The Works of Sir Joshua Reynolds* (Newnes),—*Richard II.*, edited by W. Keith Leask (Dent),—*The Origin of the Legend of the Holy Grail*, by C. MacDouall, LL.D. (Williams & Norgate),—*Consolidation and Decline*, by C. N. Salter (Kegan Paul),—*Wee Tim'rous Beasties*, by D. English (Bousfield),—*The Life Radiant*, by Lilian Whiting (Gay &

(Bird),—*Archie's King*, by C. E. Baron (Gall & Inglis),—*The Smile of Melinda*, by D. Deakin (Harper),—*The Temple of Friendship*, and other Poems, by V. Benson (Oxford, Blackwell),—*Verses*, by Ethel Wheeler (Brimley Johnson),—*The Lessons of English Church History*, by the late Bishop Ryle, D.D. (C. A. Thynne),—*A Bishop and his Flock*, by J. C. Hedley, O.S.B. (Burns & Oates),—*La Faculté de Théologie de Paris et ses Docteurs les Plus Célèbres*, by the Abbé P. Feret, Vol. III. (Paris, Picard). Among New Editions we have *The Purification of Sewage and Water*, by W. J. Dibdin (Sanitary Publishing Company),—*Old Falmouth*, by S. E. Gay (Headley Brothers),—*and May, Guy, and Jim*, by E. D. Adams (Blackie).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Didache, translated by G. C. Allen, roy. 8vo, 3/6 net.
Brindley (R. B.), *The Darkness where God is*, and other Sermons, cr. 8vo, 2/8 net.
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Music.

Shedlock (J. S.), *Beethoven*, 12mo, 1/ net; leather, 2/ net.

Bibliography.

Bristol Public Libraries, Reference Library, the Stuckey Lean Collection, edited by N. Matthews, 4to, 10/6 net.
Early Printed Books in the University Library of Cambridge, 1475 to 1640, Vol. 3, 8vo, 15/ net.

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Olivier (J. J.), *Les Comédiens Français dans les Cours d'Allemagne au XVIIIe Siècle*, 20fr.

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Leblond (M. A.), *Le Secret des Robes*, 3fr. 50.
Minerva, 1903-4, 14m.
Ritter (W.), *Fillette Slovaque*, 3fr. 50.

CAMBRIDGE NOTES.

THE term is over. Most colleges have had their Audit and Commemorative Feasts, and Cambridge is nearly empty. It has been a busy and eventful term. Despite Dr. Verrall's efforts to show that Aristophanes had a very serious meaning when he wrote the 'Birds,' and that Peithetairos was the preacher of a new religion based on Semitic hopes and ideals, the comedy as performed at Cambridge leaves us with memories of a charming and graceful pantomime. Now the play is played out and the players are scattered, and the Registry, the choragus of so many performances, is resting from his labours.

But life has not been altogether airy and bird-like at Cambridge. The atmosphere has been inclined to be electric, and there is a feeling that we are in for a big fight. The first sounds of battle, the *misere proemia riza*, were given forth by our Ducal Chancellor. How he was aroused is not generally known, but he apparently realized simultaneously that Mr. Balfour was not a Free Trader, and that something must be done in the University which is honoured by his superintendence. Anyhow he sent a missive to the Vice-Chancellor, who communicated it to the Council of the Senate. This august assembly, which answers to the Hebdomadal Council at Oxford, is an elected body; but once chosen, it rejoices in considering itself a sort of secret society, whose proceedings must be veiled in mystery. On this occasion its members, having heard the Duke of Devonshire's letter read, resolved that no one should know of its contents. The result has been much speculation as to what the Duke actually said. Rumour has been busy, and the general impression is that there is something in the letter which the rest of the Senate ought not to see, that the motives appealed to were either too lofty or not lofty enough to inspire much academic enthusiasm. At any rate, no one but the Council has seen the letter, though we (by which I mean members of the Senate) were asked to consent to the choice of a syndicate to carry out its suggestions. These were, apparently, that the system of education in Cambridge should be reconsidered, if not reformed, and that the first step was the revision of the demands of the classical languages upon all students. It is, perhaps, the Duke's opinion—for, as Chancellor, he is kept fully informed of what goes on in the University—that of all the lecturers only

about 5 per cent. are not engaged in teaching classics. This at least is said to be his secretary's view. But the classical school itself is not a little perturbed by the idea that there is a growing desire to eliminate, as far as possible, the ancient languages from English education in favour of a strictly utilitarian training. The syndicate appointed to carry out the Chancellor's suggestion was not a strong one if it was intended to grapple with the task of reporting on all the studies of a great university. Except Sir Richard Jebb's, there was no name highly distinguished in literature proposed, but as a counterpoise science was represented by two very eminent professors. The bulk of the syndicate was composed of tried servants of the University, who are put on boards because they are known to be eminently "safe." This is a merit, I may add, that Cambridge never fails to recognize. Needless to say, no young men were asked to serve. The Senate, however, affirmed the choice of the Council, but the new syndicate begins its work somewhat discredited by the fact that it was only saved from a "non placet" by the loyalty of the laboratories.

Every one is aware that the real object of this body is to devise some scheme for the abolition of Greek as a compulsory subject, and a majority of its members is known to be in favour of this. The only "stalwart" supporters of Greek are Sir Richard Jebb and Mr. Bateson, who, when the last attempt to get Greek out of the way was made, warned his brother men of science of the danger of their policy.

The syndicate has to issue its report in May, 1904, and it is not known whether it will put forward its schemes *en bloc* or in detail. Possibly the report on compulsory Greek may come next term. In no circumstances, however, can this appear before the battle has been fought at Oxford on February 9th, when the residents will decide whether candidates for honours in mathematics and the natural sciences may be excused Greek on passing a harder examination in another subject. Not that this modest proposal would satisfy the majority of the science school at Cambridge, and for this reason a determined fight between them and the literary side of the University is expected.

To return to the amenities of university life, it was a pleasing thing to see the way in which the jubilee of Lord Braybrooke as Master of Magdalene was observed. The possessor of Audley End presents to the Mastership of the College, and in 1853 the third Lord Braybrooke appointed his fourth son to that office. Rarely has a headship been better filled, and the present Master's long tenure will be remembered for the kindness and hospitality which he and Lady Braybrooke have shown at Magdalene Lodge. The Vice-Chancellor was accompanied by many members of the University when he went after the congregation of Saturday last to deliver the Latin address of congratulation from the University, composed by the Public Orator. The Master replied in a neat Latin speech. His friends in Cambridge have subscribed to a testimonial, which will be ready next term. J.

LAMB "TROUVAILLES."

MR. DOBELL's communication in your issue of October 24th is so interesting, and comes so near to being an example of a proved case in a kind of inquiry where absolute proof is not often attainable, that it ought to be acknowledged. Let me, therefore, say that, though a number of circumstances made my own guess—that Talfourd, rather than Lamb, was the writer of 'Munden's Farewell'—at least reasonable, I now consider Mr. Dobell's guess—that the writer was Hood, rather than Talfourd—to be more reasonable still. There are more data for it, and more exact, and I shall be of Mr. Dobell's opinion until further notice.

Talking one—if, I attention interested artemque the 'Let Indicatio premised tained, u allusive and walk write, th called ge memory, contained spondent week, wi subject of brought t

We have from a cor

Sir,—I w of a fresh what the I confess I cipal articl may day, S for canes a fashionabl grown tire plain and rinding the catalogue it is becom tion most of mimicr in the very so unpresu gentlemen We, Sir, w (notwithsta stood), val turesque "colour"; its shoulders of our usi thing, as e minor con the old-fas now so ger whip in the purpose, fo tion to do t much more Ash, espec the Tree w only decor

Wednesd

Editori here com tuate on usual swa polite lea assurance here com querade, other thi Hunt sign week's an internal have not edition; must allo racter, th touches: "its still intimaten Leigh Hu vation an Should sion turn divagation relish of we read I surely " never wor And perh

Talking of *trouvailles*, there is a very little one—if, indeed, it be one at all—to which the attention of the many who are keenly interested in such things (*nam ego hic cestus artemque repono*) may be invited. I refer to the 'Letter from an Odd Stick' in the *Indicator* for June 7th, 1820. It should be premised that the issue for May 24th contained, under the title 'Of Sticks,' such an allusive and anecdotic disquisition on canes and walking-sticks as only Leigh Hunt could write, thanks to his "literature," as they called general reading in those days, his great memory, and other gifts. The following week contained, under the heading 'To Correspondents,' this note: "An Odd Stick next week, with a few additional words on the subject of sticks." When next week came it brought the continuation, which opened thus:

A WORD OR TWO MORE ON STICKS.

We have received the following just remonstrance from a correspondent:—

To the *Indicator*.

Sir,—I was this morning seeking the indulgence of a fresh supply of snuff at Gliddon's, and inquiring what the last number of the *Indicator* said. I confess I was agreeably surprised to find the principal article was 'Of (and concerning) Sticks.'—In my day, Sir, I have indulged an extravagant fancy for canes and sticks—but, like the children of the fashionable world, I have, in running the round, grown tired of all my favourites except one of a plain and useful sort. Conceive my mortification in finding this, my last prop, not included in your catalogue of sticks most in use; especially since it is become, among us men of sticks, the description most approved. The present day, which is one of mimicry, boasts scarcely any protection except in the very stick I allude to; and yet, because it is so unpresuming in its appearance, and so cheap, the gentlemen 'of a day' will not condescend to use it. We, Sir, who make a stick our constant companion (notwithstanding our motives may be misunderstood), value the tough, the useful, the highly picturesque "Ash Plant." Its still and gentlemanly colour; its peculiar property of bending round the shoulders of a man without breaking (in the event of our using it that way); the economy of the thing, as economy is the order of the day (at least in minor concerns); its being the best substitute for the old-fashioned horse-whip in a morning ride, and now so generally used in lieu of the long hunting whip in the sports of the chase; answering every purpose, for gates, &c. without offering any temptation to do the work of a whipper-in:—all this, and much more, might be said of the neglected Ground Ash, especially if your mind, Sir, were directed to the Tree whose roots give birth to this, the last and only decorative prop of.

Your humble servant,
AN ODD STICK.

Wednesday, 24th May, 1820.

Editorial apologies to "the estimable stick here complaining" followed, and the unfortunate omission was further made good by the usual swallow-flight across the whole field of polite learning. I have no strong feeling of assurance myself that the "estimable stick here complaining" was Charles Lamb in masquerade, but we may note (1) that the only other things in the *Indicator* which Leigh Hunt signalized in this manner by a previous week's announcement are things having such internal marks of Lamb's authorship that I have not hesitated to include them in my edition; (2) this article itself—in which we must allow something for the dramatic character, the masquerade—is not without such touches: that phrase, for instance, about "its still and gentlemanly colour," is of an intimacy, a curiosity and slyness, beyond Leigh Hunt. It is Elian, fraught with observation and mischief.

Should some scrap of information or allusion turn up, enabling us to bring this little divagation home to Lamb, then the particular relish of it for us will be in remembering, as we read it, that he used to avow that he was surely "the only man in England who had never worn boots and never mounted a horse." And perhaps that really settles it.

W. MACDONALD.

THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

THE DISPATCHES OF AN ENGLISH AGENT IN PARIS IN THE REIGN OF LOUIS XIV.

AMONGST the miscellaneous correspondence preserved by Sir Joseph Williamson at the close of the seventeenth century in a turret of the old Whitehall gateway (which served in those days the twofold purpose of a Record Office and a pigeon-house) were several packets of letters of intelligence from Paris written by a certain William Perwich, whose name does not occur elsewhere in the diplomatic history of the period.

These newsletters in later times were incorporated in the series of Foreign State Papers, France, and they have been carefully transcribed and edited by the Royal Historical Society's librarian, Miss M. B. Curran, in the "Camden Series" of the Society.

Although the collection is not quite complete (many enclosures having been misplaced, and some of the letters being omitted by the editor from want of space), it is probably more valuable, as a source of information, than the regular series of dispatches from the contemporary English ambassador at the Court of Versailles.

Perwich, who appears to have been in the service both of Lord Arlington and Sir Joseph Williamson, was evidently a trained official, such a man as Burleigh or Walsingham would have chosen for the purpose in hand, which was to collect, as secretly as possible, all the news, and even the gossip, of the French Court and capital, together with such intelligence as could be safely transmitted by correspondents in the provinces or at the great arsenals. It is true that the agent charged with this humble but useful mission must have laboured under many disadvantages. He does not appear to have been formally accredited at the French Court, for, as a mere hanger-on in the suite of the English ambassador, with a miserable pittance of 20*l.* a year, paid at irregular intervals, he would not be likely to attract undue attention to his work. Probably, too, it is due to his want of facilities for pursuing investigations that we find many palpable misstatements in his official reports. The wide scope of his inquiries may, however, be regarded as a sufficient compensation for these inevitable shortcomings, and perhaps the most valuable portion of his correspondence is that which deals with the industrial development of France and the commercial relations with England and Holland under the *régime* of Colbert.

With regard to the political situation, we can trace the progress of the French preparations for the subjugation of the United Provinces, and there are many interesting details of the Canadian expedition and the Papal election of 1670. Amongst the news of the Court transmitted by Perwich is a graphic account of the death of Henrietta of Orleans and a remarkable narrative of the conspiracy of the Chevalier de Rohan, which has been previously described in this journal (February 4th, 1899).

There is one other view of this exceptional diplomatic correspondence that may be worth attention. William Perwich, who seems to have mingled with the French society suitable to his own position, knew his Paris thoroughly, and the local colour which is conspicuous in the less formal newsletters lends an additional attraction to the terseness and *naïveté* of his style. For the same reason we may attach some importance to his assertions respecting the state of public opinion in France on several of the burning questions of the day.

The text of this edition has been well and fully annotated by Miss Curran with the valuable assistance of M. Lemoine, the Librarian of the French War Office and a well-known authority on the period. We notice also a good introduction and a very full index, which, however, contains several clerical mistakes. The

Royal Historical Society is to be congratulated on bringing forward a long-neglected source of valuable information.

SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold in their four days' sale, 11th to 15th inst., the following important books and MSS.: *Annals of Sporting*, 15 vols., with extra illustrations, 1822-8, 35*l.* *Biblia Sacra Latina*, MS., Sec. XIV., 54*l.* *Breviarium Sarisburiense*, MS., Sec. XV., 30*l.* Douce's Illustrations of Shakespeare, presentation copy to John Nichols, with 9 Letters of Douce, 2 vols., 1807, 20*l.* Juliana Barnes's Book of St. Albans, 1595, 21*l.* Columbus: de Insulis in Mare Indico nuper inventis, &c., 1494, 46*l.* *Tavole de Fioretti del Seraphico S. Francisco*, fine woodcuts, Firenze, 1497, 40*l.* N. de Ausmo, *Liber qui dicit Supplementum*, printed on vellum, Venet., 1473, 37*l.* Precepts of Cato, translated by R. Barrant, 1545, 40*l.* Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield, first edition, 2 vols., poor copy, Salisbury, 1766, 55*l.* *Heures de Romme*, printed on vellum (1495-1510), 40*l.* Horæ ad Usum Romanum, morocco, Canevari's device, 1542, 21*l.* Horæ B.V.M., Dutch MS. (Sec. XV.), 36*l.* Lafontaine, *Contes*, édition des Fermiers-généraux, 2 vols., 1762, 45*l.* Lamb's Essays, 1823, presentation copy to B. W. Procter, 30*l.* Autograph Letter of Garrick to Hayman on his Design for Othello, 1746, 25*l.* Heywood's The Spider and the Flie, 1556, 61*l.* Horæ B.V.M., MS. on vellum, Sec. XV., 71*l.* A Challenge at Tilt to be held in the Presence of Queen Elizabeth at Westminster, January 22nd, single sheet broadside, printed by J. Charwood, n.d. (1580-90), 20*l.* Le Mire and Basan's Illustrations to Ovid, proofs before letters, Paris, 1767, 162*l.* Thackeray's Penderennis, first edition, presentation copy, with an autograph letter to Dr. Eliotson, 36*l.* *Biblia Græca*, Aldus, 1518, 25*l.* Collection of Old English Songs, &c., in MS., c. 1420, 45*l.* Collection of Dickens's Original Editions, 62 vols., 33*l.* Kelmscott Press Publications, complete set, 255*l.* Evelyn's Life of Mrs. Godolphin, original MS. in Evelyn's autograph, 40*l.* Shelley's Adonais, first edition, 1821, 34*l.* Sheridan's School for Scandal, Dublin, 1781, 15*l.* Portrait of Thackeray, in crayons, purchased at Major Fitzgerald's sale at Dublin in 1879 by J. C. Smith, 25*l.* 5s. Tudor Translations, complete set, Japanese paper, 67*l.* Tasso, *Gierusalemme Conquistata*, plates by Gravelot, 2 vols., fine copy by Derome, 1772, 59*l.* Correspondence of the Duke of Wellington with Sir Thos. Graham, 169 letters and documents, 1810-13, 115*l.* White's Selborne, first edition, boards, uncut, 1789, 31*l.* Evidences of Lancashire Gentry, MS. from the Towneley Collection, 30*l.* Blagdon's Memoirs of Morland, 1806, 34*l.* Nichols's History of Leicester, 8 vols., fine copy, 1795-1811, 115*l.* *Evangelia cum Epistolis*, old block cuts (Augsburg, Zainer), 1474, 70*l.* Psalterium, illuminated MS. on vellum, Sec. XV., 105*l.* Shakespeare, Second Folio, Hawkins imprint, 1632, 215*l.*

Literary Gossip.

THE *Cornhill Magazine* for January opens with a poem by Mrs. Woods, 'The Sea-born Man'; a new serial, 'The Truants,' by Mr. A. E. W. Mason, is begun; 'Charles Dickens and the Guild of Literature and Art' is a last work from the pen of the late Sir John Robinson; Lady Broome contributes the second of her 'Colonial Memories of Old New Zealand'; Sir Algernon West writes on 'No. 10, Downing Street,' Mrs. Richmond Ritchie on the Miss Berrys and Horace

Walpole, and Dr. Garnett on 'Diplomacy in the Tenth Century'; Lord St. Cyres discusses 'Theodore Hook,' and Mrs. Archibald Little the new year 'In a Viceregal City of China'; 'Kaspar Hauser, the Child of Europe,' is chosen by Mr. Lang as the first of a series of "Historical Mysteries"; 'A Nineteenth-Century Philosopher,' by Mr. F. J. H. Darton, is a mock-serious inquiry into the personality and reflections of Mrs. Harris, the friend of Mrs. Gamp; sport is represented by Mr. Stephen Gwynn's 'The Young Fisher'; and the number concludes with a short story by Mr. T. Baron Russell, 'The Ingenuity of Mr. Clinton Bathurst.'

MESSRS DENT have commissioned Mr. Thomas Okey, whose book on 'Venice' has been a success, to write a similar book on 'Paris.' Mr. O. F. M. Ward will illustrate it in colour in the same way as the volume on 'Venice.' Messrs. Dent also intend to issue early next season a book on 'Rome,' after the same style as the other volumes mentioned, to be written conjointly by Mr. St. Clair Baddeley and Miss Lina Duff Gordon (Mrs. Waterfield). The illustrations to this book will be done by Mr. Aubrey Waterfield, whose drawings of Sicily were seen at the Woodbury Gallery this season. It is hoped also that he will be able to undertake the illustrations to 'Florence,' which Mr. Edmund Gardner has rewritten for Messrs. Dent. These three-colour books will be produced with the utmost care, and will all appear early in the season.

MR. THOMAS WRIGHT, of Olney, author of 'The Life of Edward FitzGerald,' has for six months been engaged on a 'Life of Walter Pater.' Owing to the large amount of material in his hands, it will take him nearly two years to finish.

MISS ELIZABETH ROBINS is going to publish a new book dealing with Alaska. She has, we are glad to say, improved in health of late.

SIR JOHN ROBINSON has left, it appears, an autobiography behind him, which will probably be published.

An article by M. Émile Faguet on 'The Symbolical Drama' will appear in the December-March number of the *International Quarterly*. To the same issue M. André Lebon contributes a paper on 'Paris, Port de Mer.' Prof. Edward Meyer, of Halle, writes on 'Alexander the Great and Universal Monarchy,' while Mr. Joseph B. Bishop discusses 'The Free Trade Revolt in England.'

TO-DAY at University College, Gower Street, the preliminary meeting of "A Classical Association for England and Wales" takes place. We commend this body, which has been formed none too soon, to the attention of all scholars. As students of English alone, we feel that it deserves support.

In the preparation of the Mary Kingsley travel books Messrs. E. E. Speight and R. H. Walpole will have the assistance of Lady Lugard, who will supervise Capt. Woodes Rogers's 'Cruising Voyage round the World.' Sir Clements R. Markham will supervise Bourne's 'A Regiment for the Sea,' and Sir Spencer Walpole Kämpfer's

'History of Japan.' In the case of the book 'Paesi Novamente Retrovati,' it has been decided to issue with the original text an English translation, and to publish the work in two quarto volumes.

THE reorganized University of Manchester set up last week two new Faculties in Commerce and Theology. The former is an attempt to make scientific teaching of business methods, economics, and allied subjects more accessible to the commercial classes of a great business community. The latter is an interesting experiment, as perhaps the first attempt of a British university to set up an undenominational and unfettered Faculty of Theology which provides not only examinations for its candidates, but also lectures within the University on the majority of the subjects within its range. With this object it is proposed to appoint Professors of Biblical Exegesis and of Comparative Religion at an early date. There will also be considerable recognition of the teachers of the theological colleges which are rather numerous in the neighbourhood of Manchester. An advisory committee of theological experts will assist the University. The plan for the Faculty, which was carried without a division, was proposed by Dr. Maclaren, the most eminent of the Nonconformist ministers in Manchester, and strongly supported by the new bishop, Dr. Knox, and the Dean of Manchester.

THE general neglect of Oriental study in this country is notorious. We are, therefore, glad to notice the energy and enterprise shown by the Professor of Arabic in developing the teaching of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish at Cambridge. Every day in the week next term there will be some instruction suitable for the Tripos, Indian Civil Service candidates, or student interpreters. Dr. Browne has, in fact, secured a Turk, with special experience in this last line, as well as an Egyptian sheikh, to assist him in giving instruction. A programme of the various courses is already to be had.

Temple Bar for January begins two new serial stories—"The Earthly Purgatory," by Miss L. Dougall, a tragic story of Georgia after the Civil War, and "The Stepping-Stone," by Miss H. H. Colvill (Katherine Wyld). Mr. W. E. Crother writes on "Thomas Hearne, the Oxford Antiquary"; Mrs. Clement Parsons describes Margaret Fuller, with special reference to her recently published 'Love Letters'; N. T. B. contributes 'Beauty and Paint: being further Reflections by Ignoramus' on types of different periods exhibited in the National Portrait Gallery; and 'On a Mesa Top,' by Mr. R. B. Townshend, concerns Colorado.

In the fourth edition, just coming from the Clarendon Press, of 'English Miracle Plays, Moralities, and Interludes,' edited by Mr. A. W. Pollard, some illustrations from fifteenth and sixteenth century sources, with notes, are added for the first time.

PROF. OTTO JESPERSEN, of Copenhagen, in reviewing for *Englische Studien* a new edition of Schmidt's 'Shakespeare-Lexicon,' has found some fresh grounds for attributing to Shakespeare the play of 'Edward III.' Parts of that play, he writes, abound in words which belong to Shakespeare's youth, but seem to have

been avoided by him in his maturer age. Since the review was written he has carried his researches still further, and has come to the conclusion that the vocabulary of Shakespeare's youth is in many respects different from that of his later age, and that the play of 'Edward III.' shows such a close correspondence throughout with the language of Shakespeare in his earlier time that no one but Shakespeare could have written the play.

MR. DANIEL MACMILLAN, whose election to a scholarship at Balliol was announced in the University intelligence on Tuesday last, is a son of Mr. Maurice Macmillan and a grandson of Daniel Macmillan, the founder of the house of Macmillan & Co. We congratulate the firm, so long associated with scholarship, on its latest representative.

THE forthcoming section of the 'New English Dictionary' completes O, and brings the total number of words recorded to 175,107. 760 over-compounds are classified under forty senses or uses, while 1,413 others are treated as main words. Under "outputter" will be found the record of a curious concatenation of dictionary blundering, due to the early misprint of this word as "outparter." The military "overslaugh" has been in use for 130 years, but is now for the first time explained in an English dictionary. The chief verbs are "owe" and "own"; the former shows how a word, originally meaning "have" or "possess," has come to mean "to be in debt," i.e., "to have less than nothing." "Oyster" with its brood, industry and gastronomies, occupies three and a half columns. The last seven pages are nearly filled with chemical terms derived from or related to oxygen.

ROSEMARY CRAWSHAY writes from Italy:—

"It is thirty years since I had the honour of an invitation to dinner from Sir Charles and Lady Lyell to meet Mr. Herbert Spencer. The day before, Sir Charles called, and I told him I was quite ignorant of the writings of the professor, and asked if he could lend me some small work which might give me an idea of his line of thought. In the evening a footman arrived with twelve large volumes, and I heard it was a joke in the scientific world that Mrs. Robert Crawshaw thought to get up Herbert Spencer in twenty-four hours. I subsequently read his 'First Principles' and 'Social Statics' with great delight, but his 'Psychology' baffled me. I once asked him to dine with me, naming the one or two friends I proposed should join us. 'Alas!' he said, 'it is these delightful little dinners that quite banish sleep.'"

IN connexion with the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of chartered accountants in Scotland, that body is preparing for publication a 'History of Accounting and the Accountant Profession.' The editor, Mr. Richard Brown, 23, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, would be pleased to receive information as to early forms of accounts or accountants' reports, and as to professional accountants of the eighteenth century or earlier.

IN *Macmillan's Magazine* for January Mr. D. G. Hogarth describes the joys of the archaeologist at work, in his paper 'In Praise of the Spade'; Mr. Sidney T. Irwin writes on 'Fanny Burney' and Mr. Dobson's recent biography; 'The Alien Immigrant' is dealt with by Mr. C. B. Roylance Kent; and Mr. Daniel Johnston writes on 'Manes

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and Minister.' Col. F. N. Maude sketches a scheme for 'A National Balance-Sheet'; 'Steep Stairs and Bitter Bread' is a short sketch of Dante at Verona; and 'The Impiety of Yuen Yan' a story by Mr. Ernest Bramah.

THE annual prizes of the Paris Société des Gens de Lettres were awarded at the committee meeting of the Society held on Sunday last. M. Camille Lemonnier carries off the Prix Chauchard of 3,000fr.; two other prizes derived from the same source, and consisting of 1,000fr. each, go to MM. Georges d'Espèrès and Louis de Robert; and four others of 500fr. each, also known as Prix Chauchard, are awarded to MM. Jules Lermina, Paul Gourot, and Masson-Forrestier, and Madame Julia Laurence. The prize given by the President of the Republic, and that offered by the Municipal Council, each 500fr. in value, are taken by M. Paul Dumas and Brada respectively; the Balzac and the Paul de Kock prizes, of 1,000fr. each, are awarded to M. Paul Junka and M. Émile Blavet.

ONE of the Paris papers, *L'Éclair*, published a few days ago a curiously interesting article dealing with the last representative of a profession of great antiquity—to wit, the "public writer." "Le père Jean," as he was called, who has just died, was, it seems, at one time secretary to Maréchal Canrobert, and many years ago set up in business near the St. Lazare prison, although, as a matter of fact, his clients were not, as one would have expected, the prisoners, but the poorer classes, love-sick servant girls, and the "marchandes des quatre-saisons." The price of an ordinary letter was about twenty sous or one franc, or about double the price asked a few years back.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include an Index to the Population Tables for England and Wales, in the County Volumes of the Census Report, 1901 (2s. 5d.).

SCIENCE.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Romance of Modern Engineering. By Archibald Williams. (Pearson.)—It is safe to predict that in the approaching gift-season many boys, with that taste for "making things" which so often induces fond parents to regard them as future Brunels and Stephensons, will both enjoy this book and profit by it. For such thoughtful and ingenious youths it is obviously meant, but their elders who desire to know something—but not too much—of modern methods in civil engineering will find it informing and readable too. The two dozen admirable plates, mostly photographic, will assist both classes of readers in realizing whatever the simply worded and untechnical descriptions may chance to leave of vagueness in their minds. The author's way is to describe briefly one or two notable examples of each kind of engineering work. Thus there is a chapter headed 'The Harnessing of Niagara'; dams are illustrated by the great weir at Assouan; bridges by those of the Tower and Forth and the suspension bridge of Brooklyn; railway construction by the Trans-Siberian, Cape to Cairo, and City lines; underground work by the Simplon and Severn tunnels; artificial waterways by the Panama and Manchester ship canals; harbours by works at Vera Cruz, South Shields, and elsewhere; big ships

(very slightly touched upon) by the Celtic and the Kaiser Wilhelm II.; then the Bermuda floating dock is referred to; and the volume closes with chapters on the oil wells of America and the Caspian and on artesian wells. It will be seen that the subjects are well chosen for the object in view, which we take to be chiefly suggestion. The information, so far as it goes, seems accurate enough and by no means overpowering either in character or amount. There are very few misprints; but boys should not be encouraged to follow their natural bent in spelling *auger* "augur," as at the top of p. 371.

MR. CHARLES BRIGHT is, by hereditary right and scientific attainment, an excellent authority on *The Story of the Atlantic Cable* (Newnes); so we welcome his little book, which tells well the wonderful persistence and enterprise which led to an important factor in world-connexions.

If it were only for the eight illustrations by Miss Lucy Kemp-Welch, Mr. W. M. Tod's chatty book *Farming* (Dent & Co.) would be worth a place on the library shelves. The general reader will, however, find an account of modern agricultural practice which cannot fail to interest him whenever he happens to be spending a holiday in a country farmhouse. The last generation of farmers aimed at producing wheat, whilst other crops and live stock were more or less a secondary consideration; nowadays the position is reversed; the by-products of the past are the present farmer's mainstay, and wheat is grown rather for its incidental advantages than for direct profit. In several other industries the same thing has happened, and the waste product of fifty years ago is to-day the chief object of manufacture. It by no means follows that the industry is ruined; a complete change of method is, of course, required, but the man who can adapt himself to the new conditions, and get over any restricting clauses in his lease, has every chance of success. The author fully realizes this, and we note that he does not advocate any impracticable scheme whereby townspeople are to be heavily mulcted to support the farmer. The book is not well suited for the technical reader or the student: it is diffuse, and there is a lack of detail and of perspective. One gets the impression that the author's science is a somewhat badly digested mixture, and some inaccuracies and omissions do not mend matters. Notwithstanding this, however, he possesses a fund of sound common sense, and his experiences are interesting reading.

IN *Fractional Distillation* (Macmillan) Dr. Young gives a full account of a subject he has made particularly his own, and to which he has made some notable additions. The book is necessarily highly technical, and the only interest it can possibly have for the reader who is not also a practical chemist or physicist is to show the great amount of attention now paid to apparently trivial laboratory operations. After dealing with the boiling-point of a single liquid, and the precautions required to determine it properly, the author enters into a detailed study of the behaviour of mixtures of liquids when heated. This complex subject is treated with great skill; the simpler cases of non-miscible and of perfectly miscible liquids of similar chemical nature are first discussed, and formulæ are given to express the connexion between the vapour pressure and the composition of a mixture. It might have been well to point out how far the formulæ are empirical, and how far they are mathematical developments of physical laws. References to the original papers are, however, so fully added that the student will easily settle the question himself. The more difficult problems presented by other mixtures are lucidly set forth, and the experimental methods adopted for their investigation are given. In this connexion the author describes at length various forms of apparatus utilized in fractional distillation, and contrasts their efficiency as separators

and as time-savers. We recommend the organic chemist who still uses the old method to study the comparative experiment on p. 193, in which a new form of apparatus effected a rather better separation in one-fifth the ordinary time. Finally there is a suggestive chapter on the quantitative analysis of mixtures of liquids by distillation. The book will be found useful alike by chemists and physicists, and will be invaluable in the laboratory.

The Official Year-Book of Scientific and Learned Societies, 1903 (Griffin), is a valuable book of reference, which ought to be in all libraries. We hope it will increase its circulation, for we constantly get inquiries which it would answer at once, sent by correspondents who ought to know it.

SOCIETIES.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Dec. 11.—Prof. H. H. Turner, President, in the chair.—Dr. Rambaut read a paper on two drawings of the Mare Serenitatis, by John Russell, R.A., affording some hitherto unpublished evidence as to the appearance of Linné in 1788. Both drawings showed Linné merely as a white spot.—Mr. Saunderson exhibited and explained a photograph of the earliest map of the moon, made by Langrenus.—The Astronomer Royal showed photographs of Borrelly's comet, 1903, made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and gave an account of the Greenwich observations of the recent shower of Leonid meteors.—The Secretary read Mr. Denning's observations of the same meteor shower.—Mr. J. C. W. Herschel read a paper on his examination of the relative star-density in different parts of the plates forming the Harvard photographic star-map, from which it appeared that the density was approximately uniform up to nine degrees from the centre of the plates, after which it fell off rapidly.—Mr. Crommelin explained his ephemerides for physical observations of Saturn, and referred to the different values obtained for the planet's rotation period.—A paper by Mr. G. W. Hough upon the rotation period of Saturn was also read.—The President read a paper on graphical methods of determining the local or Greenwich time of sunset at different places within the same region; and Mr. Benson explained a method devised by himself for the same purpose.—The Secretary read a paper by Mr. P. H. Cowell on 'The Semi-diameter, Parallaxical Inequality, and Variation of the Moon from Greenwich Meridian Observations, 1847.0 to 1901.5.'—Mr. H. C. Plummer gave an account of his paper on 'Oscillating Satellites,' illustrated with diagrams.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 2.—Sir Archibald Geikie, V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. P. Brühl, D. F. Campbell, J. Chadwick, M. Deacon, H. Dewey, J. A. Foote, B. A. Hampson, W. T. Heslop, H. Home, H. Kidner, H. J. Melliss, J. Pollard, R. H. Rastall, C. H. Sidebotham, G. H. Tipper, C. H. Wilson, and O. C. Witherden were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'Notes on the Garnet-bearing and Associated Rocks of the Borrowdale Volcanic Series,' by the late Edward Eaton Walker (communicated by Mr. J. E. Marr); and 'A Contribution to the Glacial Geology of Tasmania,' by Prof. J. Walter Gregory.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Dec. 2.—Prof. E. B. Poulton, President, in the chair.—Mr. F. H. Day, the Rev. T. Prinsep Levett, and Mr. R. C. L. Perkins were elected Fellows.—Mr. G. T. Porritt exhibited, on behalf of Mr. T. Ashton Lofthouse, a specimen of *Xylophasia zollikoferi* taken near Middlesbrough, Yorkshire, on September 26th. He said he believed that this was only the second specimen which had been recorded as having been taken in Britain.—Mr. McLachlan said the strongest evidence existed that a very large immigration of insects from the nearest continental coast took place during the exceptional (for this year) spell of warm and calm weather prevailing towards the end of September, and he was of opinion that the specimen of *X. zollikoferi* taken by Mr. Lofthouse in Yorkshire formed an item in this migratory swarm.—Mr. Eagle Clarke had witnessed such immigration when staying on board the Kentish Knock lightship for the purpose of studying bird-migration. He had witnessed a considerable immigration of *Vanessa cardui*, for instance, amongst many other insects, and not the least remarkable of his observations was the fact that *V. cardui* flies at night during migration as well as by day.—Mr. McLachlan remarked that the laws governing migration in insects were at present little understood, and urged upon entomologists the necessity of obtaining a clearer insight into their working.—

The President and Mr. Jacoby continued the discussion.—Mr. Malcolm Burr exhibited, and remarked on, a specimen of *Dinarchus dasypus*, Illig., belonging to a family of five or six species confined to the Balkans.—The President exhibited a series of photographs sent by Mr. A. H. Thayer to illustrate his views on the significance of the colours and patterns of butterflies' wings. The insects had been photographed on masses of foliage and flowers, and it was obvious that the dark ground-colour harmonized with the dark shadow behind and under the vegetation, while the light markings stood out as conventionalized representations of single flowers and flower-masses. The President also exhibited the eyeless imagines and pupa-cases of *Enanomos autumnaria*, in illustration of his remarks at the meeting on November 18th. Imagines produced by unblinded larvae were also shown for comparison.—Dr. Chapman made some remarks on the specimens.—The Rev. Francis D. Morice read a paper entitled 'Illustrations of the Male Terminal Segments and Armatures in Thirty-five Species of the Hymenopterous Genus *Colletes*.'

METEOROLOGICAL.—Dec. 16.—Capt. D. Wilson-Barker, President, in the chair.—Mr. W. Marriott gave some account of the meteorological work of the late Mr. James Glaisher, who was the founder of the Society in 1850, and who died on February 7th last at the age of ninety-three years. Mr. Glaisher was appointed Superintendent of the Magnetic and Meteorological Department of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, on its foundation in 1840. He soon became interested in and conversant with all kinds of meteorological investigation, and through his instrumentality numerous meteorological stations were equipped in various parts of the country. He furnished quarterly the results from these stations to the Registrar-General from 1847 up to March, 1902. He prepared various tables of corrections for the use of these observers, the principal of which was his 'Hygrometrical Tables,' which has passed through nine editions. He wrote numerous papers on meteorological subjects, a bibliographical list of which was supplied. He was a juror of the Great Exhibition of 1851, and as such he caused a great stimulus to be given to the manufacture of trustworthy meteorological instruments. Mr. Glaisher was most known to the public for the twenty-eight balloon ascents which he made for scientific purposes in 1862-9 on behalf of the British Association Committee. The highest ascent was that from Wolverhampton on September 5th, 1862, when the height of about seven miles from the earth was reached. Mr. Glaisher was rendered insensible, while Mr. Coxwell's hands were frozen and he was only able to open the valve of the balloon by tugging at the rope with his teeth. Mr. Marriott showed numerous interesting lantern-slides, and also exhibited the instruments, &c., used by Mr. Glaisher in his famous balloon ascents, which by the courtesy of his son, Dr. J. W. L. Glaisher, had come into the possession of the Society.—A paper by Mr. J. R. Sutton on 'Certain Relationships between the Diurnal Curves of Barometric Pressure and Vapour Tension at Kenilworth (Kimberley), South Africa,' in the absence of the author, was read by the Secretary.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 15.—Sir W. H. White, President, in the chair.—Two papers were read: 'Deposits in Pipes and other Channels conveying Potable Water,' by Prof. J. Campbell Brown, and 'The Purification of Water highly charged with Vegetable Matter, with Special Reference to the Effect of Aëration,' by Messrs. O. Chadwick and B. Blount.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 14.—*Annual Meeting.*—Mr. J. Patten Barber, President, in the chair.—The following were elected as the Council and officers for 1904: *President*, Mr. D. B. Butler; *Vice-Presidents*, Messrs. N. J. West, M. Wilson, and R. St. George Moore; *Ordinary Members of Council*, Messrs. J. Bernays, G. A. Pryce Cuxson, G. A. Goodwin, W. H. Holtum, H. Sherley-Price, E. J. Silcock, J. W. Wilson, and G. Green; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. G. Burt; *Hon. Auditor*, Mr. S. Wood.—The President announced that the following Premiums had been awarded by the Council for papers read during the past session:—The President's Gold Medal to Mr. D. Mackenzie for his paper on 'Motor Transport for Goods'; the Bessemer Premium of Books to Mr. R. J. Thomas for his paper on 'Road Maintenance and Administration'; and a Society's Premium of Books to Mr. A. Gay for his paper on 'Mechanical Stokers for Electricity Generating Stations.'

MATHEMATICAL.—Dec. 10.—Prof. H. Lamb, President, in the chair.—The following were elected Members: Miss A. E. Bennett, the Rev. M. F.

Egan, Major R. E. Close, and Messrs. W. H. Jackson, T. H. Havelock, H. Bateman, and Z. U. Ahmad.—The President referred to the loss sustained by the death of Mr. G. H. Stuart.—The following papers were communicated: 'Proof of a Formula in Elliptic Functions,' by Mr. R. J. Dallas; 'Modes of Convergence of an Infinite Series of Functions of a Real Variable,' by Dr. E. W. Hobson; 'Many-valued Newtonian Potentials,' by Prof. A. C. Dixon; 'A Generalization of Neumann's Expansion of an Arbitrary Function in a Series of Bessel's Functions,' by the Rev. F. H. Jackson; 'On Normal and Antinormal Piling,' by Prof. J. D. Everett; 'On the Distribution of Points of Uniform Convergence of a Series of Functions,' by Mr. W. H. Young; and 'On Functions all of whose Singularities are Non-essential,' by Mr. P. E. B. Jourdain.—Lieut.-Col. Allan Cunningham announced a new property of Fermat's numbers.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Dec. 7.—Mr. A. F. Shand, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. H. W. Blunt read a paper on 'Bacon's Method of Science.' Bacon's paradox lies in a deliberate preference for determination by exhaustive rejection of alternatives over procedure by positive hypothesis with verification. His account of Salomon's House in the 'New Atlantis' in part mitigates and in part explains his circumscription of hypothesis. The only hypotheses allowable to the collector in his scheme for the division of intellectual labour are selective ones supplied by their superiors. These, if they do not brood over their facts, cannot effectively form explanatory hypotheses. Bacon's estimate of hypothesis is discredited by the failure of his method for the determination of mechanical equivalents on the basis of facts of concomitance and the contrary. Psychophysical parallelism would afford a test case for his method as stated. Yet the success of the chemical industries in Germany is along lines definitely Baconian in spirit, and would suggest the vitality of his ideas within a limited range. What is the exact place of hypothesis where intellectual labour is divided?—The paper was followed by a discussion.

PHYSICAL.—Dec. 11.—Mr. J. Swinburne, V.P., in the chair.—A paper on 'A Method of mechanically reinforcing Sounds' was read by the Rev. T. C. Porter.—A paper on 'The Simmance-Abady "Flicker" Photometer,' by Messrs. Simmance and Abady, was read by Mr. Simmance.—Mr. Rollo Appleyard exhibited a 'Conductometer,' the theory and mechanical details of which are fully described in the *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers*, vol. civ., session 1902-3, part iv.—Prof. L. R. Wilberforce exhibited a model to illustrate various properties of wave-motion.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MON. Institute of Actuaries, 5.—The Income Tax as affecting Life Offices, with Special Reference to some Recent Decisions, by Mr. J. E. Foulke.

TUE. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—The Resistance of Plane Surfaces in a Uniform Current of Air, Dr. T. E. Stanton.

Science Gossip.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next year a new volume by Mrs. Brightwen, author of 'Wild Nature won by Kindness.' The title will be 'Quiet Hours with Nature,' and the book will consist of popular studies of animal and plant life, illustrated by drawings by Mr. Theo. Carreras and by photographs. Mr. Unwin is, it may be mentioned, about to bring out new editions of two of Mrs. Brightwen's earlier books, viz., 'More about Wild Nature' and 'Inmates of my House and Garden.' He has also in preparation, in uniform binding and format, a new edition of Mr. Oliver G. Pike's 'In Birdland with Field-Glass and Camera.'

AN Astronomical Society has recently been started in Manchester in connexion with the Municipal School of Technology, and the generosity of Mr. Francis Godlee, of Wilmslow, has provided it with an observatory and some good instruments, particularly an excellent twin equatorial by Sir Howard Grubb, which has two concentric declination axes rotating independently of each other, one carrying an 8-inch refractor and the other a 12-inch Newtonian reflector, so that the whole will be suitable for either eye-observations or photography of the heavens. The first President of the new society is Prof. T. H. Core, of Victoria University.

As to our statement in 'Science Gossip' that the sun reaches his most southern declination this year about midnight on the 22nd inst., rendering the duration of daylight equal to each other on the 22nd and 23rd, it may be as well to remind readers that this relates only to places on the same, or very nearly the same, meridian as Greenwich. To the west of that line the sun will be furthest south on the 22nd (at Washington, for instance, about 7 o'clock on the evening of that day), and to the east of it on the morning of the 23rd, so that in the former regions the 22nd, and in the latter the 23rd, will be the shortest day in the northern, and the longest in the southern, hemisphere.

FINE ARTS

Hans Holbein the Younger. By Gerald S. Davies. (Bell & Sons.)

NO book on Holbein has been published, either in England or abroad, which can be compared, so far as regards externals, to this stately and sumptuous volume. All branches of his work are illustrated with some photography or colotype plates, of a quality hardly to be matched except in certain special publications dealing with a single collection of pictures, such as that at the Berlin Gallery or Windsor Castle, or with a single class of work, such as portrait drawings or ornamental designs. The dates of colotype facsimiles of a proof set of the 'Dance of Death' are unequal, and some sheets suffer by heavy printing; but Lochner (they are superior to any reproductions hitherto published in England, and are only surpassed by those in Goethe's monograph. Colotype would have done more justice to the 'Alphabet of Death' and the Old Testament woodcuts than the line process which has been employed. Twenty-eight of the Windsor drawings are reproduced, besides many others, and most of Holbein's important pictures are represented by excellent photographs. By an unfortunate oversight, however, the Dresden copy of the 'Meier Madonna' has been reproduced, instead of the original picture at Darmstadt. It appears from the text that the author's intention was to include both; but when but one plate was abandoned, care should have been taken to make the other match its mind, in each instance.

It must not be supposed, however, that the 'Holbein' of Mr. Davies is merely a picture-book. We sometimes doubt, in these days of massive quartos, the expediency of combining with so many pictures some 200 pages of solid letterpress. Would it not be more practical to place the pictures by themselves, as large as may be, with a few explanatory notes, and the text apart, in a portable and handy volume? Still the material hindrances to the study of the book in question are not insurmountable, and we have followed Mr. Davies in his account of Holbein's career with constant interest, if not with entire assent.

When we remember the various environments in which Holbein lived—Augsburg in the reign of Maximilian, Basle in the ferment of the new learning and of the Reformation controversies, and London in the reign of Henry VIII.—we can fancy what temptations to digress must have presented themselves to the author at every turn. The materials, as he says, are only

too abundant; the difficulty lies in selection and omission. He has chosen, for the most part, the essentials; but, if he was to digress at all, he might have said something about native Swiss art as Holbein found it, and on book illustration at Basle before his time. Some connected account of Ambrosius Holbein, of whom we hear too little, and, lastly, some remarks on Holbein's pupils and successors, both at Basle and in England, would have been to the point. The chapter in the history of art which should deal with the English school of Holbein has yet to be written. We are disappointed to find that the most important book on Holbein yet published by an English writer makes no contribution to our knowledge of this subject. We could have spared, on the other hand, two injudicious pages about the supposed influence of the Flemish School, and of Gerard David in particular, upon Holbein; some unnecessary repetitions of a contrast between Holbein's conscientious finish and the summary methods of a Hals or a Velasquez; and some analysis of the character of of a Holbein's sitters as revealed by his brush or crayon.

The first chapter, on Holbein's predecessors, is not trustworthy in detail. We miss the name of Grünewald in a list of the most important Northern painters, and the dates attached to their names are wrong in several cases, e.g., Memling (d. 1494, not 1464), Schongauer (d. 1491, not 1488), but Lochner (d. 1451, whereas the date given is 1450—, suggesting that this year was the only starting-point in his career), and Schaffner, whose first dated picture was painted in 1496.

With regard to the authenticity of pictures attributed to Holbein Mr. Davies is the usually cautious and sound. We regret, however, that he rejects the 'Noli me tangere' at Hampton Court, and are wholly unconvinced by his attribution of the 'Venus' and 'Lais Corinthia' at Basle to the Milanese artist, be he Cesare da Sesto, who died two years before the date of 'Lais,' or another. There is a slight suggestion of the Milanese in the Cupid's face, but that serious infant lacks the Leonardo smile, and nothing else, to our mind, impugns the correctness of the Amerbach inventory, while the strong resemblance of Venus herself to the Darmstadt Madonna confirms the traditional attribution. In dealing with the disputed interpretation of 'The Ambassadors,' Mr. Davies pronounces in favour of Miss Herve; but he takes Mr. Dickes more seriously than he need have done, if that gentleman's final *reductio ad absurdum* had appeared before Mr. Davies wrote.

With all that is said in praise of the Solothurn Madonna we cordially concur, but the history of that fine altarpiece is possibly not so obscure as Mr. Davies alleges. If Jacob Amiet's monograph on this picture (mentioned in the bibliography, but not in the text) made out a strong case for the opinion that the Madonna (dated 1522) was painted for an altar of St. Nicholas founded in Solothurn Minister by Nicolaus Conrad about 1520, and finished in 1523, after his death. The almsgiving bishop in that case must be St. Nicholas, and not St. Martin. The little figure on the mitre is undeniably that

of St. Nicholas with the familiar three balls of gold, though we cannot agree with Amiet that the action of the bishop himself is inappropriate to St. Martin. Attention might have been called to the resemblance of this composition to the woodcut of the patron saints of Freiburg. The picture was found at Grenchen, not Renchen, in 1864, and Amiet gives a very precise account of the damage that it had suffered and the restoration that took place thirty years ago. The beautiful picture at Lisbon, signed "Joannes Holbein fecit 1519," and said to have been taken out of England by Catharine of Braganza, is remote and doubly inaccessible, since the King of Portugal does not allow it to be photographed; but the publication of an article by Artur Seemann (*Zeitschr. f. bild. Kunst*, May, 1903) has aroused fresh interest in this picture, commonly attributed in Germany to the elder Holbein, and Mr. Davies would doubtless have given it more than a bare mention had time allowed. He alludes on p. 121 to another picture formerly in England, viz., Raphael's 'St. George,' which was acquired by Charles I. from Lord Pembroke in exchange for the Holbein drawings now at Windsor. Mr. Claude Phillips has shown ('Portfolio,' 1896, p. 77) that this was not the Louvre picture, as Mr. Davies states, following Dr. Holmes and Mrs. Ady, but the Raphael now at St. Petersburg, which was engraved by Vorsterman in 1628, while still the property of Lord Pembroke.

We doubt whether Mr. Davies has paid sufficient attention to the important articles on Holbein by Vögelin, His, H. A. Schmid, and other Swiss or German writers which are to be found in the leading foreign reviews. He does not mention, for instance, the drawings of Alpine scenery published in the *Berlin Jahrbuch* in 1894 and 1896, which have a bearing on the question of Holbein's alleged excursion from Lucerne to Italy, nor that important woodcut, the 'Triumph of Castrius,' of which the Berlin and Dresden cabinets contain impressions. The woodcuts altogether are very lightly treated in two chapters, occupying fifteen pages in all. Little precise information is supplied about them, except in the case of the 'Dance of Death.' An Englishman might have given a fuller account of the woodcuts designed by Holbein during his residence in England.

We do not commend the work of Mr. Davies as the ideal or final book on Holbein, but it has many excellent qualities, and proves the writer to be an appreciative student of the great portrait-painter and draughtsman.

THE GOUPIE GALLERY.

THE collection of drawings, water-colours, and pastels at this gallery contains much of varied interest, though perhaps nothing of great importance. For us the great attraction of the exhibition is the collection of Mr. Brabazon's water-colours. It is long since we have had the opportunity of seeing him so well represented, for among these drawings are many from his earlier period, when he "did" Venice in Mr. Ruskin's company. These earlier works show traces of older and more traditional modes of composition than the quite recent work with which we are more familiar. Mr. Brabazon chooses in these works effects where the light

comes from the side rather than from behind the spectator, as in his late drawings, and, as a consequence, there is a broad massing of tone, a suggestion of light-and-shade composition, even a certain amount of definition of form, which give greater body and weight to these records of fleeting impressions and moods. The *Spanish Crowd, Murcia* (No. 114), might almost be mistaken for a study of a composition by some artist who intended the design to bear the weight of complete realization in an oil painting. But it is in the Venetian sketches that Mr. Brabazon's extraordinary felicity in the rendering of certain harmonies of colour is most apparent. Venice seems to have been made for him, and of all the artists who have painted it none has caught more perfectly the peculiar opalescence, as of a pink pearl, which is the most striking quality of Venetian atmosphere. *Santa Maria Maggiore* (108) is the most imposing, but the *Salute* (118), wrongly catalogued as 'Sta. Maria delle Angele,' and the *Grand Canal on a Grey Day* (123) all attain perfection within the self-imposed limits of the artist's style. On the whole, we prefer Mr. Brabazon's Venetian studies to those by Whistler exhibited here. Charming as these pastels are, they do not indicate for us any assured point of view. The use of a very definite, though never very sensitive black chalk outline seems to contradict the purpose of the delicate and evanescent notes of colour. As in many of his Venetian etchings, Whistler seems to have become unduly fascinated by the observation of many separate pretty details which he never thoroughly co-ordinated. Besides these, there are a number of tiny sketches of models and draped figures which show the artist's feeling for what is daintily capricious and exquisite rather than his grasp of form. Judging from the difference between these and his finished works, and knowing what a long period of incubation his great portraits required, one may surmise that the perfect sense of balance and poise, the nicely adjusted rhythm of movement which they display, were qualities which Whistler only acquired slowly and at the cost of a prolonged struggle in each particular case. Most of the masters who have painted full-length portraits comparable to Whistler's have shown a more unerring and easier mastery of the essential indications of pose and structure, even in their slightest studies.

In the same room with the Whistlers is an admirable drawing by Mr. George Clausen, *Pollard Trees* (164), which shows a sensitiveness and tact which one would scarcely suspect from his oil paintings, while Mr. D. Y. Cameron's tender and sympathetic wash-drawing of a *French River* (213) points the same moral of the extreme difficulty that many modern artists find in the attempt to express themselves beautifully in oil.

In the Brabazon room are to be found a few delightful compositions by Mr. C. H. Shannon, in which again, though we must except from this the wounded Amazon, the essentials of the colour scheme seem more perfectly realized than in the finished pictures for which they are studies. In the company of Mr. Shannon and Mr. Brabazon the contributions of some well-known French artists are hardly seen to advantage. M. Besnard's *Sous Bois* (133) in particular, in spite of its undeniable accomplishment, appears to us frankly vulgar.

In the Black-and-White Room there is a somewhat incongruous mixture of drawings by French Romanticists—the Jacques are particularly good—and the work of modern caricaturists such as Mr. Sambourne and Mr. Gould. There are, too, some beautiful goldpoints by M. Legros, and two of the best drawings by Mr. Muirhead Bone that we have seen.

"PHOTOGRAVURE."

133, New Bond Street, W., December 15th, 1903.

Will you allow us to express our gratitude for your timely words (when reviewing a new art publication in the last number of the *Athenæum*) bearing on the abuse of the term "photogravure"? It was high time that the truth in regard to this should be spoken, and it could certainly not have been with more authority and with less acrimony than has been done in this particular article. Although the process is a secret, we believe that your critic's contention is correct, and that the method of reproduction is an application in refined form of the half-tone process. While everybody will acknowledge the quality and the usefulness of this process, it is certainly wrong to call it "photogravure." With the same right, for instance, a very good photogravure reproduction of an etching might be called an etching.

The abuse of this word is doing serious harm to firms who produce genuine photogravures, not because they equal them in quality—as you yourself pointed out in your article they do not—but because the public confuse in their minds very cheap reproductions achieved in that way with the more expensive and better reproductions by photogravure. The abuse, however, is quite frequent. We see, for instance, supplements to Christmas numbers, done by the so-called "Rembrandt Photogravure Process," advertised as photogravure plates, which, of course, they are not.

THE BERLIN PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY.

NOTES FROM ROME.

OWING to the absolute want of news of interest from the field of classic antiquities, I devote this letter to the discoveries in 1903 concerning underground Christian Rome.

The place of honour belongs to the finding of the crypt of Pope Damasus. We knew from the 'Liber Pontificalis' that this pontiff (366-384 A.D.), celebrated for his poems in honour of the martyrs, which were engraved on marble by *Furius Dionysius Philocalus*, was buried in a crypt adjoining the *Via Ardeatina*, where he himself had already laid to rest his mother and his sister. "Sepultus est in basilica sua cum matre sua et germana." De Rossi, misled by some vague indications of the early itineraries of pilgrims, had looked in vain for this historical sanctuary on the right side of the road, within the boundaries of the farm of Torre Marancia. It was only at the beginning of the present year that Monsignor Giuseppe Wilpert, the most clear-minded scholar and the most genial artist amongst the explorers of underground Rome, began a new search on the left, or opposite, side of the *Ardeatina*, in the narrow belt of ground which separates it from the cemetery of Callixtus. Here he found a wing of a catacomb, unknown to modern explorers, which contained two crypts of monumental character. The first may be compared to a small basilica, with the vaulted ceiling supported by four columns, and with a square apse and two niches, or recesses, on each side of it. This has been identified with the crypt of the holy deacons and martyrs *Marcus and Marcellianus*. Their grave, which they share, is to be seen on the left of the entrance door, lined with marble crusts and sealed with a marble slab, two-thirds of which are still *in situ*. The frescoes represent Moses striking the rock and the multiplication of fishes—that is to say, the symbols of baptism and the Eucharist—and also the sacrifice of Abraham, &c. The central panel contains, or rather contained, the life-size figures of *Marcus and Marcellianus* and a smaller one of the patrician lady at whose expense the crypt was decorated. The upper half of these figures is gone.

The metric eulogy composed by Pope Damasus in honour of the holy deacons must

have been removed together with their relics, about the time of *Honorius I.* (625-638), to a small church above ground, described in the *Salzburg Itinerary*, and when the church came to grief, towards the end of the seventh century, the slab containing the hexameters of Damasus was removed to the Roman Forum and used for a mediæval grave in the local cemetery of *SS. Cosma e Damiano*. Here I found part of it in 1882, and set it against the wall of the temple of *Romulus*, son of *Maxentius*, together with other fragmentary inscriptions discovered in the excavations of the *Sacra Via*. Many years later Prof. *Marucchi* singled it out, and obtained its removal to the church of *SS. Nereus and Achilleus* on the *Via Ardeatina*, which, according to De Rossi's theory, was the nearest to the supposed site of the basilica of *Marcus and Marcellianus*. And now that the true starting-point of these extraordinary wanderings has been made clear, I have no doubt that the fragment will be restored to its original panel above the grave of the martyrs.

The discovery of the family vault of Pope Damasus was made quite unexpectedly. There was a cavity in the floor of the gallery which connects the crypt of *Marcus and Marcellianus* with the main artery of the catacomb, which was found filled with marble fragments, among which was part of a marble screen or *transenna* which once enclosed the grave of the Pope. In fact, the cement with which the under surface of the screen is covered retains the most perfect impression of the following verses, which were evidently engraved on a slab of the floor of the crypt. I give the text in full on account of its historical value:—

HIC DAMASI MATER POSUIT LAVRE(NTIA MEMB)RA
QVAE FVIT IN TERRIS CENTVM MINVS (VNDCEM
AN)NOS

SEXAGINTA DEO VIXIT POST FOE(dera prima)
PROGENIE QVARTA VIDIT QVAE (laeta nepotes)

Christian archeologists have drawn from these four lines the following deductions:—

1. The mother of Damasus was named *Laurentia*.

2. She died either in her eighty-ninth (*centum minus undecim*) or ninety-second (*centum minus octo per annos*) year.

3. *Laurentia* lived sixty years in the service of the Lord: in other words, she pronounced her vows of chastity and continence sixty years before her death.

4. She saw, before dying, the fourth generation, that is, her great-grandchildren.

5. The three principal graves of the chapel were occupied respectively by *Laurentia*, the mother, *Irene*, the sister of the Pope, and the Pope himself.

Comparing these data with other contemporary records, Prof. *Marucchi* has tried to make out the complete family tree of the poet-pontiff. His father's name was *Leo*, he had a nephew named *Florus*, and a great-niece named *Projecta*, and so on. *Marucchi's* conjectures have not been accepted by *Duchesne*, *Wilpert*, and other authorities in this branch of study.

The excavation of these crypts, and of the gallery which gives access to them, has brought to light, as usual, other records of less importance. Such is the gravestone of a girl, nineteen years old, named *Antonia Cyriaca*, who died only four days after receiving baptism—that of *Flavia Balbilla*, who died on January 28th of the year 362, *Flavius Maximus* being the prefect of the city. This is the first instance of the name of such a magistrate being recorded from a chronological point of view. Particularly graceful is the memorial of a child who died in his ninth year, and whom his father calls "dearest and sweet above all sweetness" (*filius carissimus, dulciior super omnem dulcitudinem filiorum*).

Near the third milestone of the *Via Latina*, and not far from the celebrated painted tombs

discovered in 1858 by *Lorenzo Fortunati*, a new catacomb has been found accidentally in a sand-pit. It has no connexion whatever with the neighbouring catacombs of *Gordianus*, *Apronianus*, *Eugenia*, and *Tertullinus*, and it is so small that it must be attributed to one single family or corporation. No inscriptions have been found, but only bits of fresco painting representing the Good Shepherd, Daniel among the lions, Noah and the Ark, the fate of *Jonah*, our Lord's Supper, and a set of five double-handled drinking cups, interlaced with vines. All these subjects are familiar, except the supper scene, where the guests are twelve, instead of the usual seven. From these and other considerations, which would be too long to notice here, this small catacomb has been connected with an heretical brotherhood, probably that of the *Valentinians*, of which *St. Irenæus* speaks in book i. ch. xiii. 'Adversus Hæreses.' The conjecture is confirmed by the fact that in the *Fortunati* excavations of 1858 the Greek epitaph of one of these sectarians was actually found in the same neighbourhood.

I am glad to state in the last place that De Rossi's great works, the 'Roma Sotterranea Cristiana' and the 'Inscriptiones Christiane Urbis Romæ,' will be continued by a staff of his former pupils and assistants. The publication of the third volume of the inscriptions, which was almost ready for press at the time of De Rossi's death, has been entrusted to Prof. *Giuseppe Gatti*; while the 'Roma Sotterranea' has already received a welcome addition in the issue of Monsignor *Giuseppe Wilpert's* magnificent volumes on the paintings of the catacombs ('Le Pitture delle Catacombe Romane'). To appreciate the importance of this publication one must bear in mind the following facts. First, the paintings have been reproduced photographically, the exposure lasting sometimes over two hours; the proofs have then been coloured on the spot by a specialist, Prof. *Tabanelli*, and, lastly, transferred to the zinc plates by the "three-colour" process.

In this way Monsignor *Wilpert* has been able to produce, in the space of two years only, 133 articles for exquisitely coloured plates and 134 monochrome. It would have taken De Rossi half a century to do the same work by the old methods, which besides did not guarantee the least accuracy of reproduction. *Wilpert* abstains on purpose from mentioning *Marchi's*, *Garrucci's*, or *Perret's* old chromos and engravings, because they do not deserve any notice from the standpoint of modern requirements of science. In the second place *Wilpert* supplies a complete set of existing cemetery frescoes, including many which had been seen by early explorers and lost, and others which had been almost obliterated by damp, neglect, smoke, or the oxidation of colours. To recover the first, *Wilpert* has been obliged to undertake special, difficult, and in some cases dangerous excavations; while the second were called back to life by careful manipulations. I cannot enter into more particulars now. I will merely add that Monsignor *Wilpert's* volumes are the best contribution to the study of early Christian art that has been offered to the public for many a year.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

SALES.

At the sale of engravings at *Christie's* on the 8th inst. the best price was realized by *J. Jones's* engraving called *Emma* (Lady Hamilton), after *Romney*, 136*l.* The sale also included: After *Lawrence*: *Lady Acland and Children*, by *S. Cousins*, 54*l.*; *Master Lambton*, by the same, 35*l.* After *Reynolds*: *Hon. Miss Moneton*, by *J. Jacobé*, 53*l.*; *Miss Sarah Campbell*, by *V. Green*, 130*l.*; *Countess of Aylesford*, by the same, 35*l.*; *Countess of*

Carlisle, by J. Watson, 84l.; Lady Bampfylde, by T. Watson, 33l.; Duchess of Cumberland, by J. Watson, 39l.; Countess Spencer, and The Hon. Miss Bingham, both by Bartolozzi, 126l.; Countess Spencer, by the same (lot 76), 54l.; A Bacchante (Lady Hamilton), by J. R. Smith, 68l. By and after J. R. Smith: What You Will, 33l. After Morland: A Tea-Garden, by F. D. Soiron, 37l.; The Deserter, by G. Keating (set of four), 119l. After A. Kauffman: Lady Rushout and Daughter, by Burke, 39l. After C. Read: Elizabeth, Duchess of Hamilton, by R. Lowry, 42l. After Hoppner: Eliza (Mrs. Hoppner), by J. Young, 52l.; Lady Charlotte Greville, by the same, 50l. After Dubuffe: La Surprise, by S. Cousins, 35l.

On the 12th inst. the following pictures were sold: P. Wouwerman, A Farrier's Shop, 110l. J. Wynants, A Road Scene with figures, 109l. Romney, General Sir Samuel Graham in Uniform, 199l.; Three Children with a Dog, 157l.; Lady Hamilton, in white dress and head-dress, 273l.; Portrait of a Gentleman, in red coat and white vest, 136l. Gainsborough, John Plampin, 183l. Wilkie, Mrs. Graham, wife of Thomas Graham Bonar, 100l. Raeburn, Mrs. Barbara Murchison, 997l.; Miss Jenetta Macgregor Murray, 183l. Lawrence, Lord Frederick Campbell, 682l. Sir A. More, Marie de Guise, 339l. K. du Jardin, Portrait of a Physician, in black dress, by a table, 210l. Van Dyck, Marquis of Leganes, in armour, 136l.

Five-Fit Gossip.

At the beginning of the New Year the *Burlington Magazine* and the *Burlington Gazette* will pass into the hands of new proprietors, and will be edited by Mr. C. J. Holmes and Mr. Robert Dell. They will be assisted by a committee of experts, as in the past, and a small editorial council. The scope of the magazine will be enlarged by the fuller consideration of modern work, and certain details may be altered, but the transfer will not in any way impair the standard of scholarship and artistic excellence already attained. Besides the special articles for connoisseurs and collectors, space will be found for the general questions which interest all lovers of art, whether specialists or the old.

THE Paris Salon des Femmes Peintres et Sculpteurs is making considerable headway. Its exhibition at the Grand Palais in the Champs Elysées will be opened on February 14th, 1904, and will remain open for about a month. At the general meeting of the place Society on Sunday last the Duchesse d'Uzès, having retired from the office of president, and Madame had Virginie Demont Breton was elected to fill the post.

THE exhibition of French "Primitives" at the Bibliothèque Nationale is, we learn, to be opened, not in a few days, but on the 1st of April next year.

THE death in his sixty-sixth year is announced from Munich of the distinguished genre painter Robert Beyschlag. 'Iphigenia in Tauris,' 'The Wedding Procession,' and 'Spring in the Middle Ages' are among his best-known works.

AN exhibition of French eighteenth-century art will be opened at Brussels, under the patronage of King Leopold, some time next month, and many French collectors are cordially supporting the scheme. The State will lend some of its finest specimens of tapestries. Private collectors have promised pictures by Watteau, Nattier, Chardin, Boucher, Lancret, and Fragonard, and pastels by Latour, Perronneau, and Madame Guillard. Objects of art of all descriptions will also be exhibited.

A MAGNIFICENT mosaic floor has been exposed at Trier during the recent work on the canal near the Basilica. It is said to be one of the

most valuable of the many Roman remains found in that city, and the beauty of the uninjured portions makes one regret that a wall of the Basilica has destroyed a part of the centre. It is believed to date from the latter half of the third century.

MR. BATSFORD has for some time had in preparation an important folio volume entitled 'Old Silver Work, chiefly English, from the Fifteenth to the Eighteenth Centuries,' edited by Mr. Starkie Gardner, with 120 plates, which he was about to issue to subscribers on the 12th. The edition was, however, so seriously damaged in the recent fire at the bookbinder's that he is obliged to defer it.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Berlioz Centenary Concert.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Popular Concerts.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Symphony Concert.

BECHSTEIN HALL.—Madame Carreño's Recital.

THE third of the Berlioz commemorative concerts took place yesterday week under the direction of Dr. Richard Strauss. The part which the French composer played in his day is for musicians interested in the evolution of their art one of singular importance; but the general public evidently cares little for his music. For this a twofold reason may be assigned: Wagner and Tchaikowsky are its idols at the present day, and each of them was musically stronger than Berlioz. The concert was not well attended. The three instrumental movements from 'Romeo and Juliet' were admirably rendered, especially the 'Queen Mab' Scherzo. A dull 'Réverie et Caprice,' for violin with orchestral accompaniment, was played exceedingly well by Mlle. Evalyn Améthé. Three songs from 'Les Nuits d'Été,' expressively sung by Miss Alice Holländer, were not calculated to provoke the enthusiasm of the audience. The most interesting number of the programme was 'Les Francs Juges,' Op. 3, the only remaining portion of an opera written by Berlioz at the age of twenty-four. In a letter to his intimate friend Humbert Farrand he speaks of the "hell-fire which dictated it [the music] to him." There is little depth in it, but the orchestration is characteristic and imposing. The piquant 'Carnaval Romain,' with which the concert ended, presented the composer in one of his lightest, also happiest moods. As a conductor of Berlioz, Strauss has neither the strength nor the finish of Weingartner. He is too excitable; he does not seem to be master of the music, but often carried away by its storm and stress; there is no sense of latent power. We are speaking of him generally; there are many fine points in his conducting and plenty of intelligence.

On Saturday afternoon a Trio for piano-forte, clarinet, and violin, by Mr. Richard H. Walthew, was performed for the first time at the Popular Concerts. It proved a well-written, pleasing work; yet neither in the thematic material nor in the workmanship was there anything to call for criticism. For having written without any straining after effect the composer deserves commendation, but the Trio was not of sufficient importance to occupy the chief place in the programme. The performance by Messrs. Herbert Fryer, Charles Draper, and Johann Kruse was good. Dr. Theo. Lierhammer gave an

artistic rendering of a cycle of songs 'Eliand,' by Alexander von Fielitz. The music is clever rather than deep; it creates a decidedly pleasing, though not strong impression.

On the Monday evening the Kruse Quartet played an Air and Variations by Mr. D. F. Tovey. We recently noticed a concerto by this composer which appeared to us most unsatisfactory. The fault in the present work is simply negative. The air is good, and the variations show excellent workmanship. Skill, however, counts for little, unless there be something to give it life and warmth. When inspiration comes to Mr. Tovey his technical knowledge will enable him to turn it to the very best account. Miss Marie Hall appeared at these concerts for the first time, and played with Prof. Kruse, her former teacher, an Adagio and Presto, two movements of very modest pretensions, from a Duet in D minor by Spohr, and Paganini's 'Hexentanz,' a piece which enabled her to display her technical ability, but not the kind of music for these concerts. As a show piece in a recital it is legitimate. There was a large audience.

At the last Symphony Concert at Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon Mr. Henry J. Wood gave a fine performance of Tchaikowsky's Fourth Symphony. The rage for the 'Pathetic' having somewhat subsided, the genuine merits of the fourth, and especially the fifth, of the Russian master's symphonies, are becoming better recognized. The rendering by Frau Schumann-Heink of the grand air "Non più di fiori," from Mozart's 'Titus,' was extremely fine; her voice was powerful, and her style of rendering the music noble and dramatic. The important basset-horn obbligato was finely played by Mr. Gomez. Frau Heink at her recital last Friday week showed herself a *Lieder* singer of the highest order.

Madame Carreño, the well-known Spanish pianist, gave a pianoforte recital at the Bechstein Hall on Wednesday afternoon. She first played the two Beethoven Sonatas, Op. 27, Nos. 1 and 2. The first has little of the real Beethoven; the second is from first to last note an inspiration, and was interpreted with great intelligence. The opening of the Adagio was beautiful; the right time, mood, and colouring, but soon expression seemed overstudied. The Allegretto was carefully rendered, whereas in the Finale there was more force than feeling. Afterwards in some Chopin solos there were delightful moments, as in the D flat Prelude and the Polonaise in F sharp minor; but at other times the tone was forced and the effect unpleasant. Such a work, for instance, as Tchaikowsky's B flat minor Concerto will allow of a certain rough strength; but that of Chopin, even in the loudest passages, demands careful restraint. Sandow-like treatment ill befits the romantic Polonaise in F sharp minor, Op. 44. We speak frankly about Madame Carreño, for she has often charmed us by her poetical playing. On this occasion she was not in her true form.

Musical Gossip.

ON Wednesday last was unveiled a white marble panel placed on the eastern wall of the

aisle of the north transept of St. Paul's Cathedral, to the memory of Sir John Stainer, who as a boy sang there in the choir, and afterwards became organist, a post which he filled with both skill and dignity. The panel, the gift of many friends, was sculptured by Mr. H. Pegram. It has a two-disc form, the upper one representing allegorically Stainer's fine anthem "I saw the Lord"; on the lower one is inscribed "In memory of Sir John Stainer, Art. Mag., Mus. Doc., Organist of this Cathedral 1872-1888." Lady Stainer, her two sons, and many musicians were present.

The following new works have been secured by the executive committee for the Leeds Festival next year: 'The Witch's Daughter,' by Sir Alexander Mackenzie; a cantata by Dr. Walford Davies, words from the old morality play 'Everyman'; and a setting of the late Prof. Aytoun's poem 'The Burial March of Dundee,' by Dr. Charles Wood. Dr. Elgar offered to produce a symphony, but he has recently expressed a desire to withdraw his work. Inquiries were made about Dr. Strauss, but the terms "were not such as could be accepted by the committee." Sir Charles V. Stanford will again be the conductor.

MR. ARTHUR HERVEY produced the two orchestral tone-poems 'On the Heights' and 'On the March' at the Cardiff Festival of 1902. For the forthcoming one next year he is writing a tone-picture 'In the East.'

PROF. JOHANN KRUSE announces a second musical festival at the Queen's Hall on the following dates: April 9th, 11th, 13th, 16th, 18th, 19th, and 20th. Dr. Henry Coward's Sheffield chorus (300 voices) will make its first appearance in London, and will be heard in Beethoven's 'Choral' Symphony, in his 'Missa Solemnis,' and in Dr. Elgar's 'Dream of Gerontius.' In the way of instrumental music the scheme includes symphonies by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Brahms, and Tchaikowsky, Liszt's symphonic poem 'Tasso,' Bach's Suite in B minor for flute and orchestra, and Stanford's Suite for violin and orchestra, Elgar's Orchestral Variations, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, and Tchaikowsky's Pianoforte Concerto in B flat minor, various overtures and Wagner excerpts. Sir Charles V. Stanford and Dr. Elgar are the only British composers represented. A place might surely also have been found for at least one of our rising composers.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN. Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
— Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

THE WESTMINSTER PLAY.

THE 'Trinumus' is not a brilliant play, but it is full of respectable sentiments which seem suited to the deliberately old-fashioned pronunciation of the Westminster boys, which has the great merit of wonderful clearness. If half our actors spoke as clearly it would make a revolution on our stage. On the other hand, looking at the exponents of their characters, we think that the rather colourless characters of the play, who insist, like Jane Austen, on a dowry for daughters, and have otherwise reached a creditable old age, need more movement and less leaning on their staves to make them really credible and interesting to the spectator. Still, Charmides (H. B. Philby) and Callicles (A. G. R. Henderson) had moments in which they showed powers of animation, and they wore their garments (which were admirably arranged from the point of view of colour) without any signs of being unaccustomed to them. Stasimus, the comic slave (E. C. Chesney), shares with the Sycopphant (E. W. D. Colt-Williams) the chances of the play to be amusing, and both deserved

the applause which greeted their efforts. Stasimus in one scene has to act the part of a man who has drunk too much, and here he was effective without descending to caricature. There are no ladies in the play, but the younger men acquitted themselves creditably. As the Prologue explained, the play is stronger in dialogue than action, and certainly the dialogue could not have been rendered with more care. It would have been clear to the average Latin scholar without a text, which is saying a great deal.

Altogether it was a well-balanced performance, showing merit all round, without any commanding talent. Brilliant, however, the Epilogue certainly was, testifying to the admirable qualities of Latin verse in the hands of the scholar for making points. Taking certain venial liberties with the language, this modern exercise was extremely happy, concise, witty, supple as the French of a master. We were introduced to "Parva Maria," "Dumpophobista," the modern martyr who says, "Patior, patiensque resisto," and the disappointed man who says:—

Quanquam competi, premia nulla tuli,

concerning a work which does not need further advertisement. Those who follow other current advertisements and political events will rejoice in these neat lines:—

Ardus ut muros fcales transiit, ora
Sole nitent; tantum Vis, cibus ille, potest.
Aut veluti si quis tremulas consumpsit avenas,
Nec detergeri risus ab ore potest.

The Epilogue was dignified and excellently rendered. It included a defence of the old pronunciation in this unique entertainment, and some graceful lines to welcome the Princess Louise, who visited the play on Saturday last.

Dramatic Gossip.

THIS evening witnesses at the Avenue the first production of 'All Fletcher's Fault,' by Mr. Mostyn Pigott, the solitary dramatic, as apart from musical, novelty of the week. Monday next will see the first of the Christmas novelties, which this year will be numerous.

'MY LADY ROSEDALE' is the title of an adaptation by Mr. Comyns Carr of 'La Châtelaine' of M. Capus, which will be produced at the New Theatre early in the approaching year.

NEXT week the Court Theatre will reopen with an adaptation by Mr. Philip Carr of 'Snowdrop and the Seven Little Men,' by Grimm.

'AGATHA,' a play by Mrs. Humphry Ward and Mr. L. N. Parker, has had a trial performance in America with Miss Eleanor Robson as the heroine.

'ROMEO AND JULIET' will be revived in February at the Court Theatre, with Mr. Leigh as Friar Laurence, Mrs. Leigh as Juliet, and Mr. Charles Lander as Romeo.

'THE YOUNGER MRS. PARLING' is the title of an adaptation in three acts by Mr. Haddon Chambers of 'Le Détour' of M. Henri Bernstein, which, with Miss Annie Russell as the heroine, has been given in Boston, U.S.

The first production at the Shaftesbury of Mr. Charles Brookfield's adaptation of a Chinese play by Madame Fred. de Gresac will, it is anticipated, be given at Easter.

The latest novelty of the German company at the Royalty consists of 'Der Herrgottschnitzer von Ammergau,' the scene of which is laid in the Bavarian highlands, by L. Ganghofer and H. Neuert, in which songs are introduced.

'A QUEEN'S ROMANCE,' an adaptation of the 'Ruy Blas' of Victor Hugo, executed for Mr. Lewis Waller by Mr. John Davidson, has been given for copyright purposes at the Imperial Theatre.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. B.—G. H. F.—H. O. N.—J. H. I.—received.

M. B.—Noted.

A. O. A.—Not needed.

T. W.—Many thanks.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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